

# OLD MANORS OLD HOUSES

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PUBLISHED BY THE  
HISTORIC MONUMENTS COMMISSION  
OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

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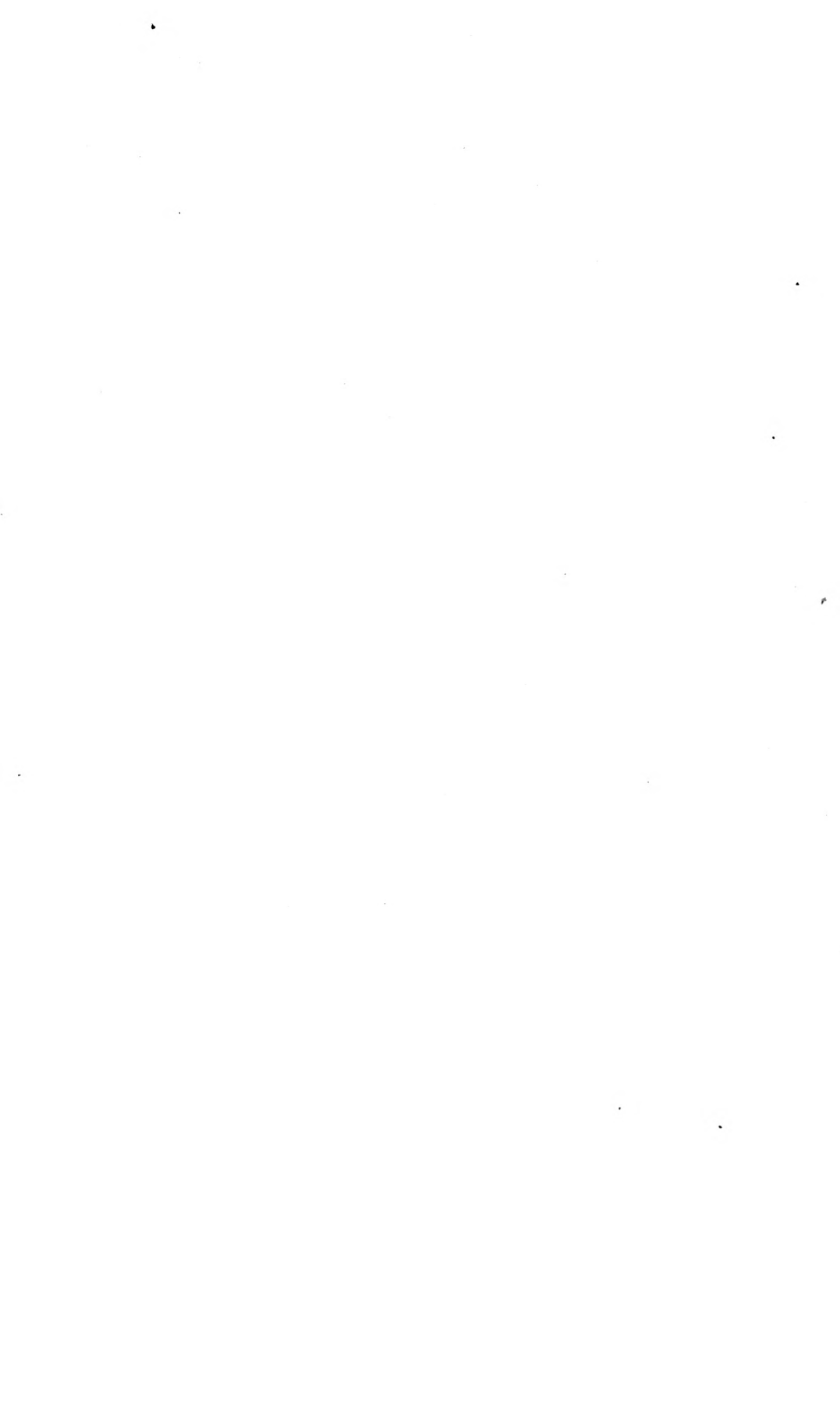
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1927











OLD MANORS

OLD HOUSES

LIST OF  
OF

1884



# OLD MANORS OLD HOUSES

To transmit to one's family the paternal home,  
the land received from the forbears, should be a  
sentiment as strong, as close to the heart, as  
sacred as the blood ties.

Canon H. A. SCOTT

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FIRST SERIES



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HISTORIC MONUMENTS COMMISSION  
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the land received from the forbears, should be a  
sentiment as strong, as close to the heart, as  
sacred as the blood ties.

Canon H. A. Scott

*This epigraph permits us to grasp instantly the object of the Historic Monuments Commission in publishing this volume. It wishes to inspire respect for the old home, love of the humble roof transmitted from father to son since ancestral days, veneration of the rustic hearth which has been the seat of the happiest days of our infancy.*

C'est ici que mes aïeux ont vécu,  
Qu'ils ont souffert, qu'ils ont aimé, que la jeunesse  
Dans sa coupe d'amour leur a versé l'ivresse  
Et qu'ils sont morts, tombant comme tombe un vaincu <sup>(1)</sup>.

*Alas! these witnesses of bygone years, these old homes of ours, are disappearing like many other things. Worn by the stress of years, they are falling before the pick of the wrecker. For many of them, destruction imposed: they were threatened with ruin. But how many might have been saved, how many might have been rebuilt on their original lines! At least, let us preserve those which survive, let us withhold from replacing them by town houses, cottages, by insignificant bungalows.*

Je n'aime pas les maisons neuves  
Leur visage est indifférent,

*wrote Sully Prud'homme. They may have a pleasing exterior, but they leave the heart cold. On the other hand, those manor houses, those old residences whose graceful profiles we reveal, possessed originality and symbolized truly the soul of an entire people.*

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<sup>(1)</sup> *Blanche Lamontagne, La vieille maison, p. 7.*

Our old seigneurs were not wealthy; they loved, nevertheless, to live well by building for themselves little châteaux on their country estates. True, their manor houses were devoid of the warlike appearance of the fortresses of the Middle Ages. They had neither keep, nor battlement, nor drawbridge, nor moat. They were just large houses built of field stone welded with good mortar. A long rectangular building constituted the main trunk of the dwelling; at either end was a tasteful wing, sometimes a turret. Bereft of exterior decoration, nothing tempered the severe aspect of our seigneurial homes. The deed erecting the seigneurie of Portneuf into a barony (1681), nevertheless, tells us that the *Sieur de Bécancour* decorated his manor house "with all the marks of nobility and seigneurie". In the same way, we read in the deed erecting the seigneurie of Longueuil into a barony (1700) that *Charles Lemoyne*, the eldest son, caused to be "built at his expense a fort flanked by four goodly towers, all of stone and masonry, with a guard-house, several dwellings and a very fine chapel, the whole decorated with all the marks of nobility..."

Nearly all these manor houses have been subjected to important modifications. Several have been skilfully restored, and their hoary appearance carries us back, despite ourselves, to the first days of the colony. Their present owners might well pose as seigneurs, and we would not be surprised, so well do their surroundings correspond to the true state of things. Like "*M. de la Bouteillerie*, seated in his armchair at one end of the great hall of the manor house, and having before him a table covered with a cloth, on which lay open the rent-roll" <sup>(1)</sup>, they might well give audience to their fellow-parishioners, and receive their homage and their dues. The illusion would be complete, and a glorious epoch would live again before our eyes.

Our old houses might be divided into two categories: those with both historic character and antiquity, and those whose merit lies entirely in their being of another age <sup>(2)</sup>.

In the first category we might place all of our religious establishments whose construction, for the most part, dates back to the 17th century: the *Quebec Seminary*, the old *Montreal Seminary*, the *Hôtel-Dieu* at *Quebec*, the *General Hospital* at

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<sup>(1)</sup> *Abbé H. R. Casgrain*, *Une paroisse canadienne, la Rivière-Œuelle*, p. 174.

<sup>(2)</sup> Incidentally, a third category might be added, those typifying Canadian architecture. On this subject, see the excellent paper by Professor Carless, published in the Appendix.

Quebec, the Ursuline Monastery at Quebec, that of Three Rivers, several old houses of the 18th century to be encountered at Quebec, at Montreal, and in some old parishes.

These old buildings have their own unique character; they are spacious and of well-trying solidity. They have not the charm of the old habitant house, of which fine examples still exist in the old parishes, and which we place in the second category. Our ancestors had brought the idea of these old houses from Normandy. Their pointed roofs, sloping steeply down on to the single storey, their false chimneys built of wood, their dormer windows resembling a circumflex accent, their windows barred by shutters, lent them an appearance at once picturesque and highly original.

Somewhere in his admirable work "*Explication de notre temps*," Lucien Romier has written: "The ancestral home attests to the link binding man to his natural providers, water, land and forest. It does not range itself against Nature, rather it adapts itself and scarcely scars what we term the countryside. It belongs as much to the soil as to man." The character of our old country houses could not be better delineated. They were made for our climate and our customs; they protected those they sheltered from the extreme cold of winter, and, during the sultry season, thanks to the thickness of their walls, they retained a restful coolness. Their interior divisions, with the large central room which served as both kitchen and parlor, were well made for the accommodation of the ever-numerous family.

The exigencies of modern life have overturned everything. The houses of to-day are elegant, tinselled, they are attractive. But have they the comfort of the old-time houses? Are they adapted to our climate, to our Canadian countryside? Are they really of our tradition? Briefly, are we truly at home in our modern houses, as our ancestors were truly at home in their old dwellings with such simple and intimate layout?

We dare not plead for a return to the old style. But we may, at least, be permitted to make an appeal to goodwill in general, so that we may keep what remains to us of the heritage of our ancestors.

Truly, to these old homes whose defence we have undertaken "clings a fragment of our history. . . . With our fathers they have, as it were, made their way across the centuries, shelter-

ing generations, ceaselessly joining yesterday and to-morrow, and exhibiting that steadfast character which renders them sympathetic to our understanding. Well may they date from a far-off epoch; that anachronism in no wise troubles our spirit, because in having been associated with all the events of our history, they come down to our day, linking one with the other, to demonstrate the constant impregnation of the past on the present. And they help us to understand, in tangible fashion, the march of tradition, which is nothing but the uninterrupted fructification of the minutes to come by those which have just died" (1).

*Old homes are the guardians of the past. Between them and the people who live in them is established a communion of ideas, of sentiments, which become perpetuated in generation after generation and form the basis of intimate tradition.*

Bienheureux qui possède encore l'humble maison  
Construite par l'aïeul, en bonne pierre grise,  
Dans les arbres, au bord de l'eau, près de l'église  
Qui contente à la fois son coeur et sa raison.

Heureux qui de son seuil voit passer la saison,  
Qui s'assied où sa mère autrefois s'est assise,  
Qui dort dans le vieux lit de son père, à sa guise,  
Qui garde la coutume et l'ancienne façon.

Sous le toit paternel le souvenir habite,  
L'âme des parents morts dans les chambres palpite,  
Des générations y viennent s'émouvoir;

Le cortège infini des ancêtres défile  
En silence de pièce en pièce chaque soir.  
Il n'est point de passé dans les maisons de ville (2).

*The historic Monuments Commission offers its thanks to Messrs. Horatio Walker, Henry Carter and Charles Maillard, who have graciously permitted reproduction in this volume of their delightful pictures of old Canadian houses. Its gratitude, too, goes to Messrs. Carless, professor of architecture at McGill University, and Marius Barbeau, of the anthropological section of the National Museum of Canada, for their invaluable information.*

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(1) Raymond de Passillé, *le Gaulois*, March 6, 1926.

(2) Albert Lozeau.



CABINET DU PREMIER MINISTRE

PROVINCE DE QUEBEC

La maison' ce mot m'évoque-t-il pas  
le foyer le vieux pignon gris, ses charmes et sa  
douceur? La maison' C'est là qu'on a fait  
ses premiers pas, balbutié ses premières paro-  
les, comme les carreaux maternelles, reçu les  
leçons de son père La maison' c'était la  
vie heureuse à son début, avant ses luttes  
et ses deuils La maison' Elle ne se rem-  
place pas; mais il est permis de la rappeler  
et de faire revivre un peu son souvenir

L. A. Taschereau

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... Elle ne se rem-  
... permis de la rappeler  
... peu son souvenir

L. A. Rousseau

## THE OLD CHÂTEAU, OR CHÂTEAU DE RAMEZAY, MONTREAL

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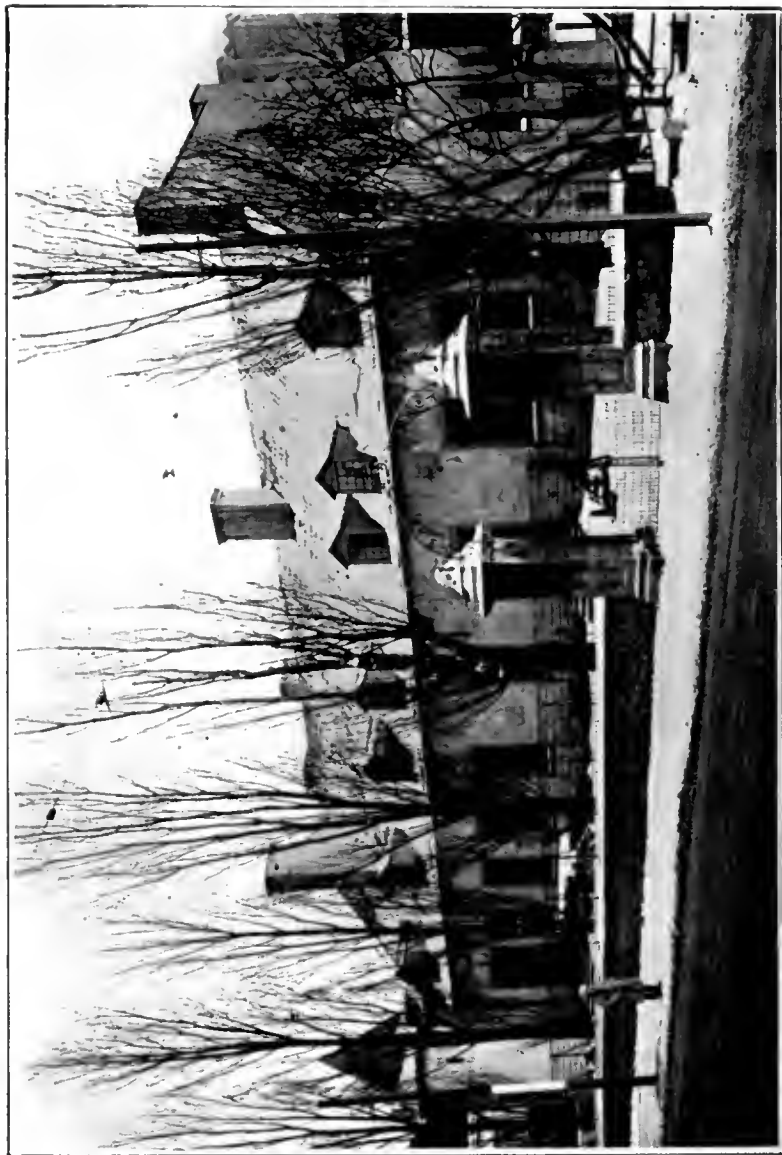
THE Old Château was built by Claude de Ramezay, Esquire, seigneur de la Gesse, de Boisfleurant et de Monnoir, chevalier de Saint Louis, former governor of Three Rivers, governor of Montreal, father of Jean Baptiste Nicolas Roch de Ramezay who signed the capitulation of Quebec. At that time it was incumbent upon the governors to house themselves in a manner befitting the function with which the King had honoured them, in other words, they were obliged to add that heavy expense to the many others which outweighed the insufficient remuneration accorded them.

"Monsieur de Ramezay, who had been named governor of Montreal in 1703, acquired around 1704 the land on which he must have forthwith commenced erection of his residence, the construction of which may be placed between that year and 1723, when it was indicated on a map of Montreal.

"Situated in a town whose inhabitants, says Charlevoix, were convinced that their gallantry was worth more than any fortification, the Château had neither turrets, keep, battlements nor loopholes. Instead of a moat there was a spacious garden in which the flowers and fruits of the mother country were to bloom and flourish.

"Upon the death of M. de Ramezay in 1724, the Château remained the property of the family, which retained it until 1745. At that time it was occupied only by Jean Baptiste Nicolas Roch de Ramezay and his wife, *née* Louise Godefroy de Tonnancour. His brother, M. de la Gesse, had been drowned in the wreck of the 'Chameau'; of his four sisters, two had moved to Saint Paul Street, one having married M. de Chapt de Lacorne senior, captain of infantry, the other Henri des Champs de Boishébert, seigneur de la Bouteillerie, also a captain. All of these heirs, lured by attractive offers and harassed also by the claims of Messrs. de Courcy and d'Auteuil, agreed to transfer the paternal home to the 'Compagnie des Indes' for a sum quite handsome at that period.

"The 'Compagnie des Indes,' forced to face the strife attendant upon trading between neighbouring colonies and the Indian tribes, was anxious to establish a warehouse of



THE OLD CHÂTEAU, OR CHÂTEAU DE RAMEZAY, MONTREAL

greater importance than those it had previously conducted in Montreal. Thus the Château became a store, in the rooms of which were heaped stuffs, spices and liquors; in the cellars were stored the pelts brought in by the Indians.

"In the offing was the memorable epoch which changed so many things. Although the 'Compagnie des Indes' had gone out of existence around 1750, the building still bore its name at the time of the conquest. It was then purchased by a Mr. Grant and later passed to the government. The governors of Montreal made it their official, if not private, residence, giving it the title of Government House, which seemed to recall its former usage.

"In the course of the invasion of 1775, the Americans believing themselves obliged to replace the English everywhere, Brigadier-General Wooster took up his residence at the Government House. In the spring of 1776, Arnold, then in the full flush of his glory, replaced Wooster while resting after his useless efforts against Quebec.

"Toward 1784, the Old Château was restored by Baron de Saint Léger, who lived in it for some time.

"During the stormy sessions between 1844 and 1849, it witnessed the deliberations of two successive ministries in that outstanding period of our parliamentary history. Sir John Colborne and Lord Sydenham held meetings of the Special Council there from 1838 to 1841" <sup>(1)</sup>.

From the fall of 1849 to the fall of 1856, the Old Château became the Court House. Then the department of education and the Jacques Cartier Normal School were located in the Old Château.

Later, the building sheltered Laval University, the Circuit Court, and the Magistrates' Court.

In 1893 the city of Montreal decided to buy the Château; the contract, however, was not signed until February, 1895.

Two months later, the Archeological and Numismatic Society of Montreal leased the interesting old building for a nominal sum, to install in it its collection of portraits, historic objects, and coins. Since then the lease has been renewed on a number of occasions.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Abbé H. A. Verreau, *Journal de l'Instruction publique*, August, 1857.



THE OLD SEMINARY AND MANOR HOUSE OF THE SEIGNEURY OF MONTREAL

The first building of this ancient edifice, situated on Notre Dame Street West, was begun in 1680 by Abbé Dollier de Casson, superior of the Gentlemen of St. Sulpice. It was inhabited from 1685; two wings were added before 1717, then, in 1740, it was embellished with a large portal. The Gentlemen of St. Sulpice being seigneurs of the Montreal Island, consequently had their residence in the manor house.

## THE FORT DES MESSIEURS, MONTREAL

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A NUMBER of Iroquois of la Prairie de la Madeleine, and other Indians, having expressed to the Gentlemen of Saint Sulpice their desire to live on the Island of Montreal, the Sulpicians located them, in 1676, at the foot of the Mountain, some two miles to the west of the town.

It was M. Vachon de Belmont who built the Mountain fort for the protection of his neophytes against the attacks of the pagan Iroquois.

Bacqueville de la Potherie gives this description of the Fort des Messieurs:

“Abbé de Belmont’s building is one of the finest places in the country. . . . . It is a stone fort with four bastions. It has a chapel fifty feet long and twenty-five feet wide, with walls adorned with panelling on which are ornaments, such as urns, niches, pilasters and pedestals having the appearance of red marble, white-veined. The huts of the Iroquois, who number more than one hundred and twenty, adjoin the fort, and are inside a palisade.”

Abbé Olivier Maurault, from whom these details have been obtained, explains that the enclosure given over to the Indians bore the name of the Indians’ Fort, and the stone buildings were known as the Fort des Messieurs.

Of all the fine buildings erected by Abbé Vachon de Belmont, nothing remains but the two towers shown here.

To continue quoting Abbé Maurault:

“From 1854 to 1857 the vast edifice of the Grand Seminary was rising. For reasons better remaining unknown, it was thought necessary to build the trunk and the two wings of this building around the old château. The rear towers disappeared in the foundation work. As for the main building, it remained until 1858, hemmed by the two arms of the Seminary. A priceless photograph by Notman shows it, held in that sort of vice which was soon to crush it. What remains of it now?

“On the flank of the slope, at a spot enriched by a far-flung view, a wooden cross and a few poplars mark, perhaps,



THE FORT DES MESSIEURS, MONTREAL

View from Sherbrooke Street.

the site where Chomedey deposited his precious burden in 1643.

“In the gardens, 'neath spreading elms, in venerable shade, stretches a ribbon of water, a stone paved canal. The spring, the famous spring, trickles through. . .

“On the hill, here and there, staunch stone walls, pierced from time to time by heavy, ironbound doors.

“Fringing the street, the two towers, sole vestige of the fine buildings of other days, priceless relics for the history of education in our country.

“Above the portal of the Grand Seminary may be read this inscription: ‘Hic evangelizabantur Indi.’ Nothing more”<sup>(1)</sup>

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<sup>(1)</sup> *Le Fort des Messieurs*, page 22.



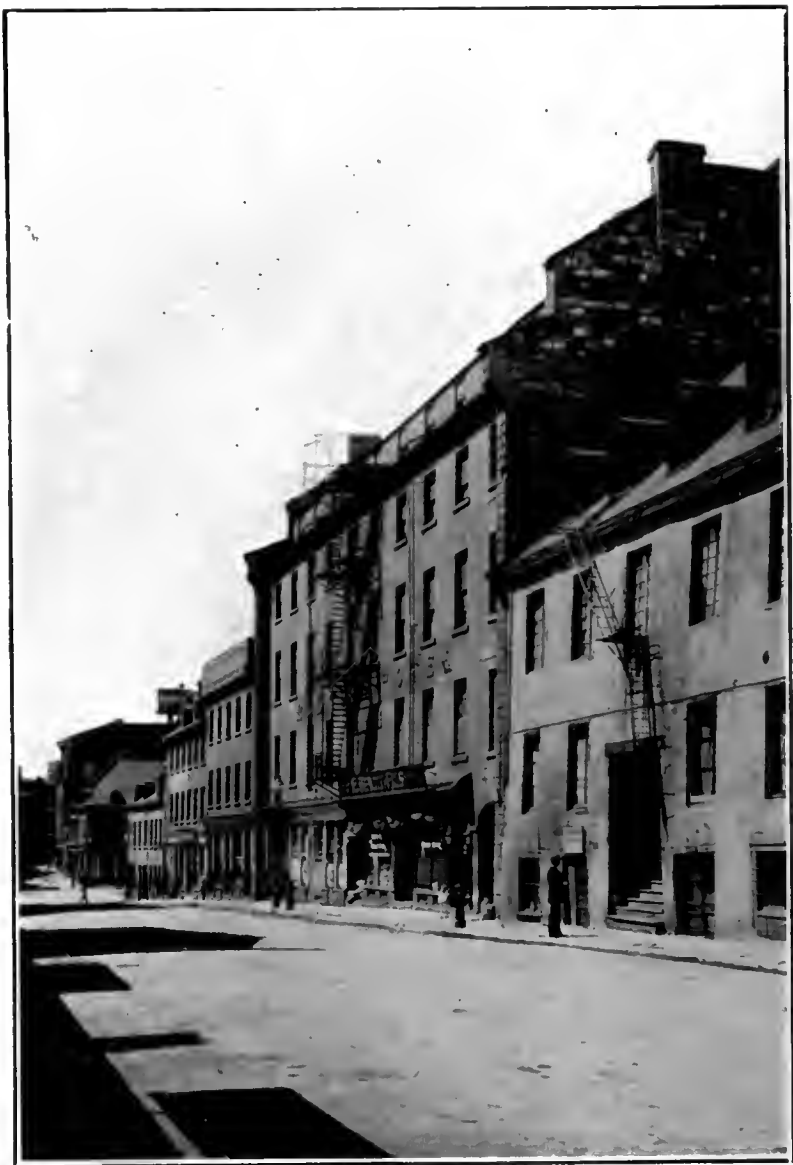
THE FORT DES MESSIEURS, MONTREAL

View from the Seminary garden.



THE HOUSE OF THE PATRIOT, SAINT PAUL STREET, MONTREAL

This house is more than one hundred years old. The wooden statue of the old-time French-Canadian, with woollen cap, traditional "capot" and "souliers de bœuf," acts as a sign for the tobacconists who, for the last eighty years, have succeeded one another in this frequented location.



THE OLD ROSCO HOTEL, SAINT PAUL STREET, MONTREAL

The Rosco Hotel opened in May, 1836. It was big enough to accommodate 150 travellers. It was the finest hotel in Montreal, perhaps in all Canada. It held sway for a little over ten years. The façade of the faded building still bears the inscription "Rosco's Hotel."



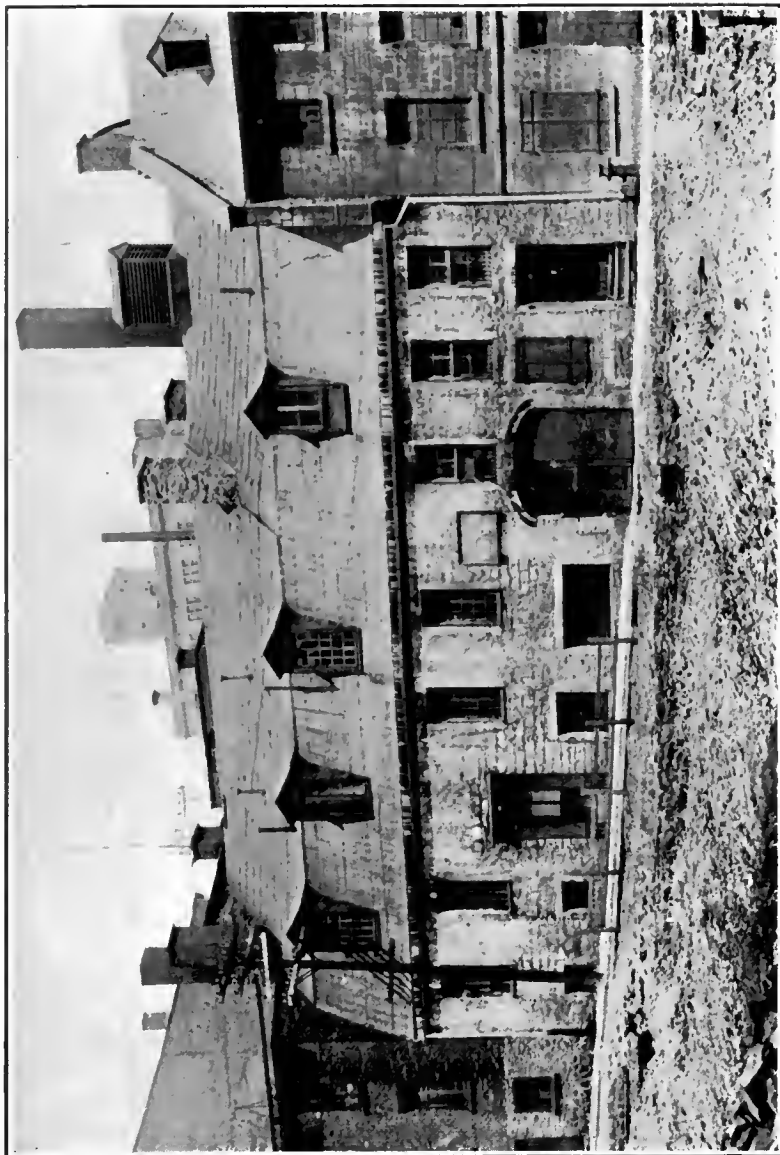
THE OLD HOUSES ON SAINT VINCENT STREET, MONTREAL

Situated on the east side of Saint Vincent Street, half-way between Saint Paul and Notre Dame Streets, these houses date from the 18th century and figure among the old buildings of Montreal. They have housed lawyers and notaries, for Saint Vincent Street was for a long time the favoured thoroughfare for law offices.



THE OLD HOUSES ON SAINT VINCENT STREET, MONTREAL

Rear view.



THE MCTAVISH HOUSE, SAINT VINCENT STREET, MONTREAL

It has been said that this house was constructed around 1655 by Nicolas Hubert Lacroix, tailor. In reality, it was built at the end of the 18th century and occupied by the famous Simon McTavish, king of the fur trade. McTavish died in 1804.



THE OLD HOUSES OPPOSITE THE COURT HOUSE, MONTREAL

These houses were built between 1685 and 1723. In one of them lived Raymond Fabre, bookseller and mayor of Montreal; it was the birthplace of Bishop Fabre and of the Honourable Hector Fabre. Here also was the noted "shop with the barred shutters," where Jean Louis Beaudry, later mayor of Montreal, conducted a flourishing business.



THE MILL, POINTE AUX TREMBLES (MONTREAL)

This mill, which seems to have been built at the opening of the 18th century, was owned by Jean Sicard, a miller, in 1713. It is well preserved. Surrounded by greensward and covered with vines, it lures tourists in the open season. Only two of these mills remain on the entire Island of Montreal.

## THE DESMARCHAIS HOUSE, NOTRE DAME DES NEIGES

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**W**EST of the old and picturesque Côte des Neiges road, in the lovely section known as Notre Dame des Neiges, where the northern slopes of Mount Royal still afford a view, stretching in impressive vastness to the filmy blue horizon dominated by the Laurentian ramparts, there is a house, truly venerable, yet sprightly in its modern dress. Built of field stone, fairly spacious, the house holds the ground floor and above that a mitre roof in which is an upper floor and an attic. The house, together with its outbuildings and good-sized land, to-day is known as the farm of the Reverend Sisters of Sainte Croix.

Curiously enough, the house does not face on the road which winds down from the Mountain; it is the right side which the passer sees as he goes by. The front door opens to the south; above that door and under the roof, which is lengthened to cover the gallery, the visitor sees (if he be apprised of it) a large inscription which baffles the archeologists, a reproduction of which will be found on page 18.

The house is on the farm granted on April 30, 1698, to Guillaume Le Cavelier, an armourer of Montreal. It remained the property of his widow and children until 1744. Later owned by Louis Prudhomme, a wealthy Montreal merchant, then by the Honourable D. E. L. de Longueuil, it ultimately passed to the Durand-Desmarchais family. After a century of uninterrupted possession, the Desmarchais heirs donated the property to the Reverend Sisters of Sainte Croix <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Notes by Mr. E. Z. Massicotte.



THE DESMARCHAIS HOUSE, NOTRE DAME DES NEIGES



THE DESMARCHAIS HOUSE, NOTRE DAME DES NEIGES  
The cryptic inscription on the wall.



THE NIVARD SAINT-DIZIER HOUSE, VERDUN

This house was built by Etienne Nivard Saint-Dizier, Montreal merchant, in the early years of the 18th century. It seems to be the oldest house in Verdun.

## THE FLEMING MILL, VILLE LA SALLE

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**S**ITUATED on the north bank of the River St. Lawrence, between Lachine and Verdun, is Ville La Salle, comparatively young as a municipality, but nevertheless one of the historic spots of the Island of Montreal. For the town covers the ancient La Salle fief and the site of the old Lachine Fort.

It was during the winter of 1667-1668 that M. Galinier, the Sulpician superior, granted a fief to Cavelier de La Salle. From M. Faillon we learn that this fief was located opposite Lake St. Louis, at a spot on the Island of Montreal where the seminary of the Gentlemen of Saint Sulpice had already decided to establish a settlement. La Salle began clearing operations, plotted the boundaries of the future village, where there was to be a house in which the settlers could take refuge from the Iroquois. He also made a number of concessions, giving to each settler sixty French acres of land.

It is a matter of tragic record that, during the night of August 5, 1689, several hundreds of Iroquois crossed Lake St. Louis, massacred almost the entire population of Lachine, and set fire to some thirty houses.

The Fleming Mill stands at the western extremity of the old village of Lachine. It is generally thought that the Fleming Mill was built by the great explorer Robert Cavelier de La Salle. That is not so. It dates from 1816.

The mill is remarkable in its architecture, which is virtually unique so far as this country is concerned; it has four stories and is conical in form. The building of it caused a noted lawsuit. The Gentlemen of Saint Sulpice, invoking their rights as seigneurs of the Island of Montreal, wished to prevent Fleming from using his mill. The proceedings lasted for ten years.

For a number of years, the mill has been abandoned. Ruin menaces it, and it will disappear ere long unless steps are taken speedily to counteract the ravages of the elements<sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Notes by Mr. E. Z. Massicotte.



THE FLEMING MILL, VILLE LA SALLE



THE OLD HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY STORE, LACHINE

Tradition has it that this building was at one time a store of the Hudson's Bay Company. Since the canal dates from 1821, the very same year that the Hudson's Bay Company absorbed the rival North-West Company, the building must have been constructed between 1821 and 1825. It is well preserved, but its appearance has been somewhat changed.



THE MESSIER HOUSE, SAINT FRANÇOIS DE SALES, ILE JÉSUS

This house, built in the 18th century, is occupied by M. Joseph Messier, who inherited it from his father, Zéphirin Messier. The latter had bought it from Adélard Ouimet, who had secured it from his uncle, Delphis Ouimet. The last named brought up twenty-two children in the house.



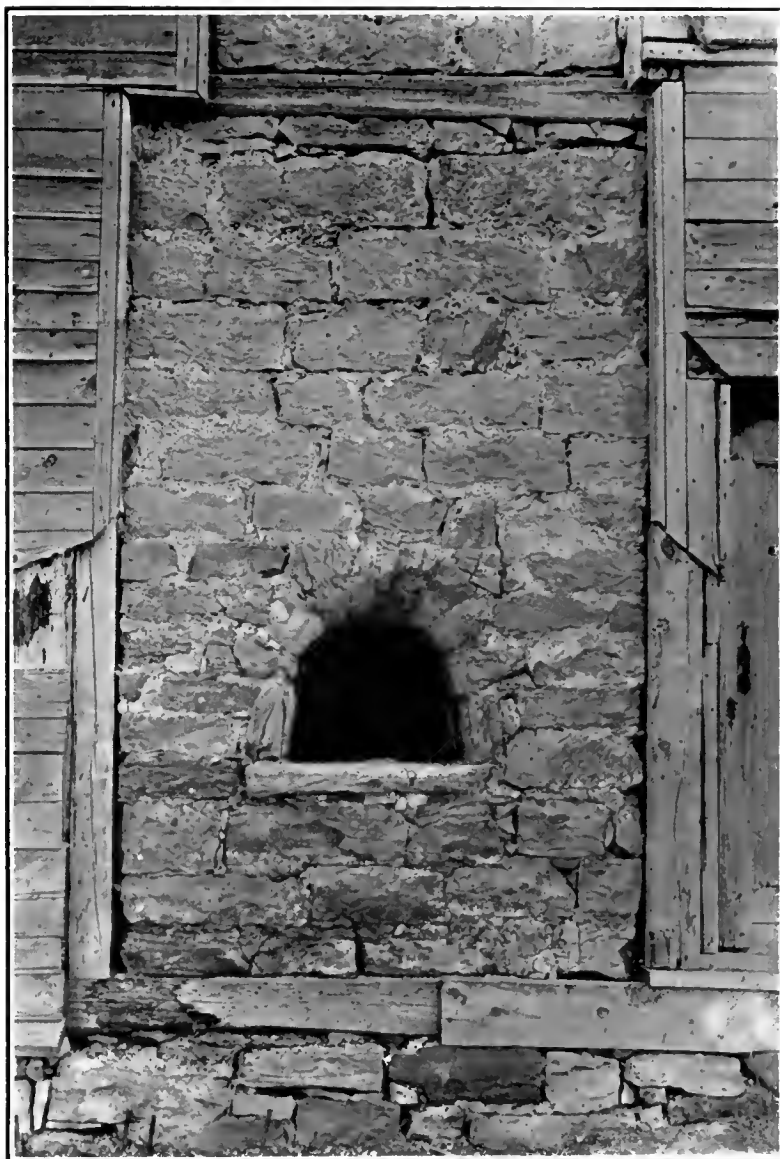
THE MESSIER HOUSE, SAINT FRANÇOIS DE SALES, ÎLE JÉSUS

The door of this wall cupboard and the old staircase show that little change has been made in the interior since the house was built.



THE FORGET HOUSE, SAINT FRANÇOIS DE SALES, ILE JÉSUS

This house, which belongs to M. Conrad Forget, dates from 1694. Several restorations have robbed the building of its original appearance.

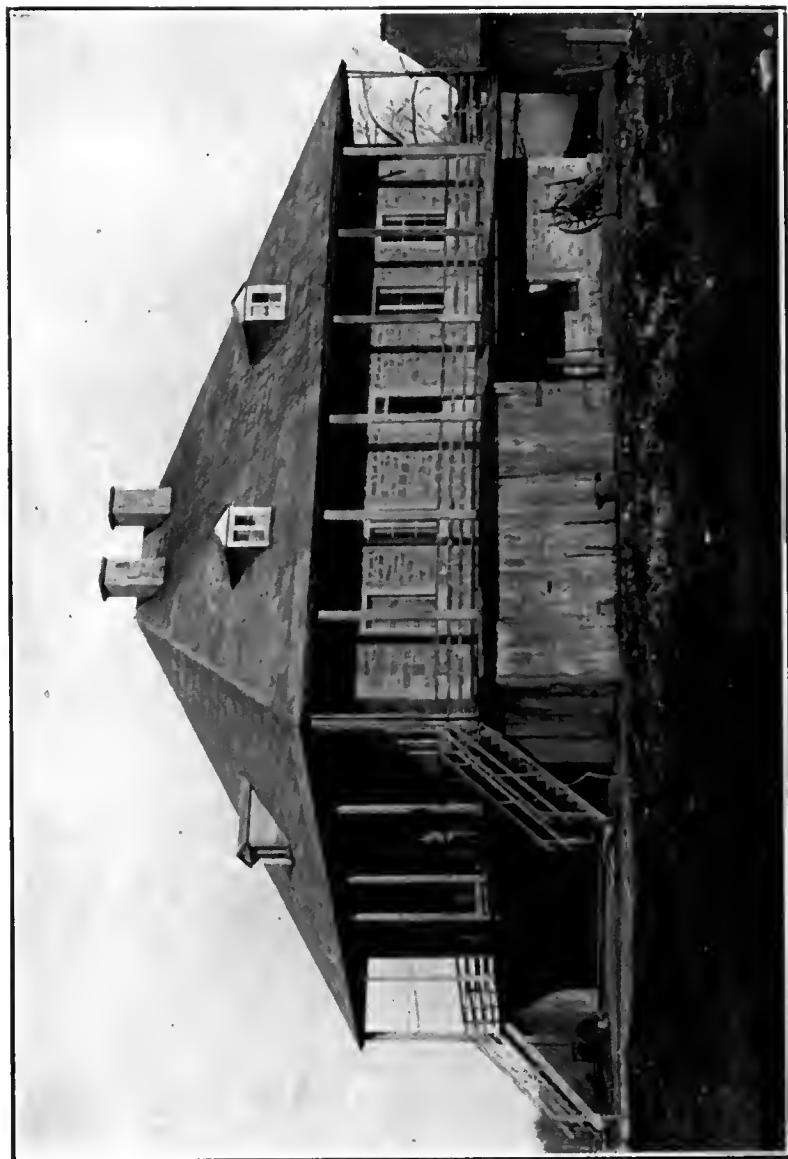


THE GASCON HOUSE, SAINT FRANÇOIS DE SALES, ÎLE JÉSUS

Bread oven outside the chimney

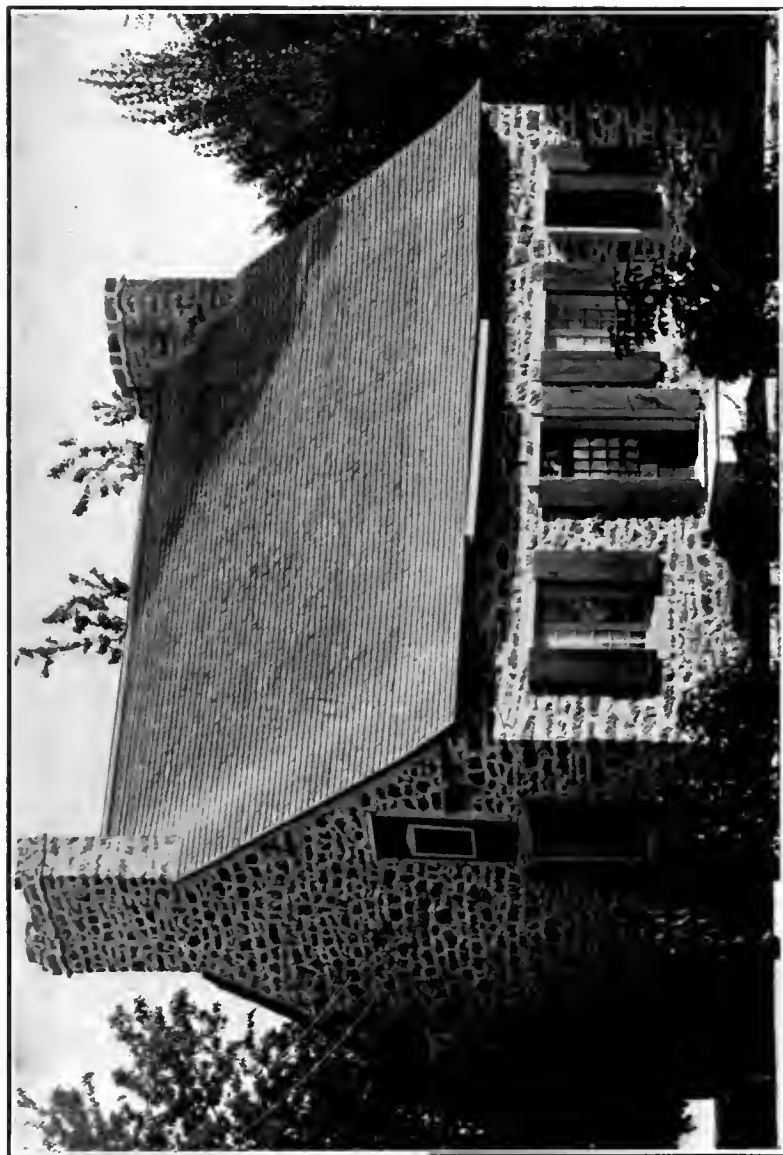


THE ADÉLARD MEUNIER HOUSE, SAINT FRANÇOIS DE SALES, ILE JÉSUS  
This house dates from the 17th century. Few repairs have been necessary.



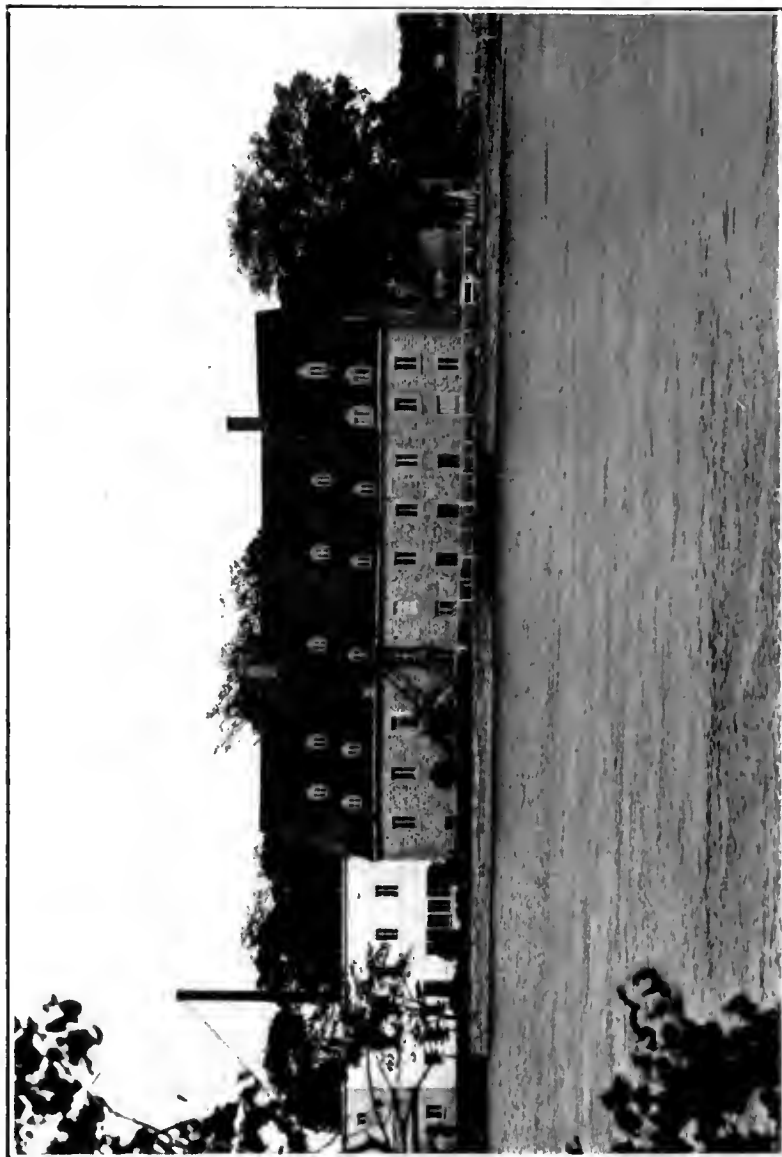
THE CAP SAINT MARTIN HOUSE, SAINT ELZÉAR, ILE JÉSUS

Partially unoccupied, this house is on a property which, at the beginning of the 19th century, belonged to Mgr. Vinet, parish priest at Sault au Recollet from 1841 to 1890. This type of house is to be found at four or five places on Ile Jésus, though in smaller dimensions.



THE LORRAIN HOUSE, LAVAL DES RAPIDES, ILE JÉSUS

Situated between the Rivière des Prairies and the road skirting the south side of Ile Jésus, this house to-day is owned by Mrs. Joseph Drolet. For several generations it was occupied by the Lorrain family. The year 1780, graven over the door, marks the restoration and not the construction date.



THE CROCHET MILL, LAVAL, DES RAPIDES, ILE JÉSUS

This mill was erected by the Seminary of Quebec for its tenants of Ile Jésus. In 1895 the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Montreal, bought it to establish their "Maison de Lorette" and their "Maison Sainte Domitille." The exterior appearance of the old mill remains unchanged.

## THE MANOR HOUSE OF THE SABREVOIS DE BLEURY FAMILY, ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, ILE JÉSUS

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**R**EALIZING one of his fondest ideals, Clément Charles Sabrevois de Bleury purchased from René Saint James, J. B. Baron and Joseph Rollin, associates or pupils of the famous sculptor Joseph Quevillon, sundry parcels of land which, in the whole, constituted a farm thirteen arpents wide and thirty-two arpents deep. That was between 1827 and 1837. This handsome property fronted on the Rivière des Prairies; to the rear of it was the Saint François range. On the southern end, near the river, M. de Bleury constructed a spacious manor house with front and rear façades bearing the crest of his family. The outbuildings of this real château also were in stone, and somewhat expensive in character.

The Honourable M. de Bleury found great pleasure in entertaining, and the doors of his manor house often admitted friends from Montreal and elsewhere. He and his wife generously dispensed the delicate hospitality for which they became noted.

On January 16, 1823, at Saint Roch de l'Achigan, M. de Bleury had married Marie Elisabeth Alix Rocher, daughter of Barthélemi Rocher and Angélique Petrimoulx. The lady's father, then, was personal representative of M. Roch de Saint Ours, seigneur de Lachenaie and benefactor of the parish of Saint Roch, which owes its name to him.

The last of the de Bleury line died suddenly on September 15, 1862. On settling the estate, it was found that the fine property at Saint Vincent de Paul was heavily mortgaged, and it went under the hammer of the sheriff on December 30, 1863, M. Tancrede Bouthillier being the purchaser. He appears to have resold the property in different lots, one going to M. Félix Lussier, of Varennes, whose descendants still own the manor house <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Notes by Mr. E. Z. Massicotte. In the *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques* for 1926, pages 7 et seq, Mr. Massicotte published the complete genealogical history of the Sabrevois de Bleury family.

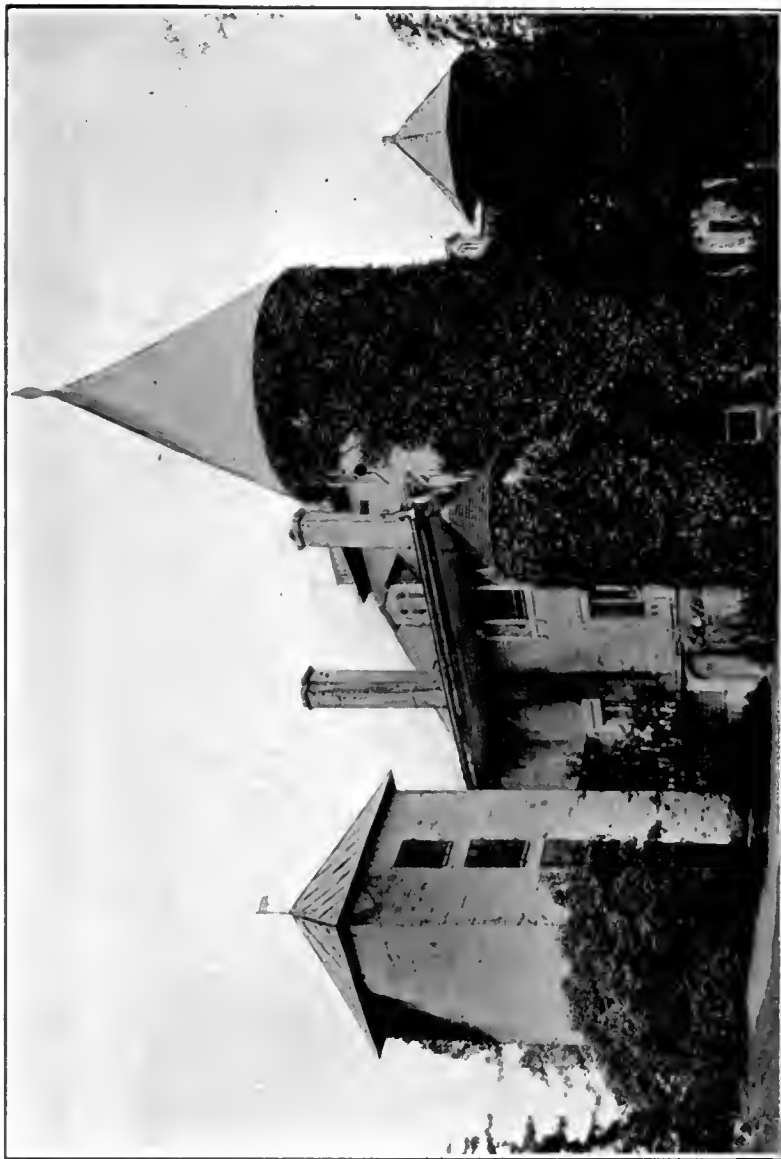


THE SABREVOIS DE BLEURY MANOR AT SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, JESUS ISLAND

Front, facing the road.



THE SABREVOIS DE BLEURY MANOR AT SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, JESUS ISLAND  
Front, facing the river.



THE PAPINEAU MANOR AT MONTEBELLO

This manor was built for the Hon. Louis Papineau between 1847 and 1849. According to the archives of the family it appears that the architects, sculptors and contractors were Messrs. Aubertin, Dauphin and Augustin Laberge. It is believed that it was occupied first in 1850. It was in this house that the great speaker died September 23rd, 1871. The manor is occupied to-day by the widow of Louis Papineau.



THE GIROUARD HOUSE AT SAINT BENOIT, TWO MOUNTAINS

In 1837, the English troops fired the house of the patriot Jean Joseph Girouard at Saint Benoit. In 1840, Mr. Girouard rebuilt the house on the old foundations and raised it two storeys. Mr. Joseph Girouard, notary, formerly deputy of Two Mountains, lives in the house of his father.



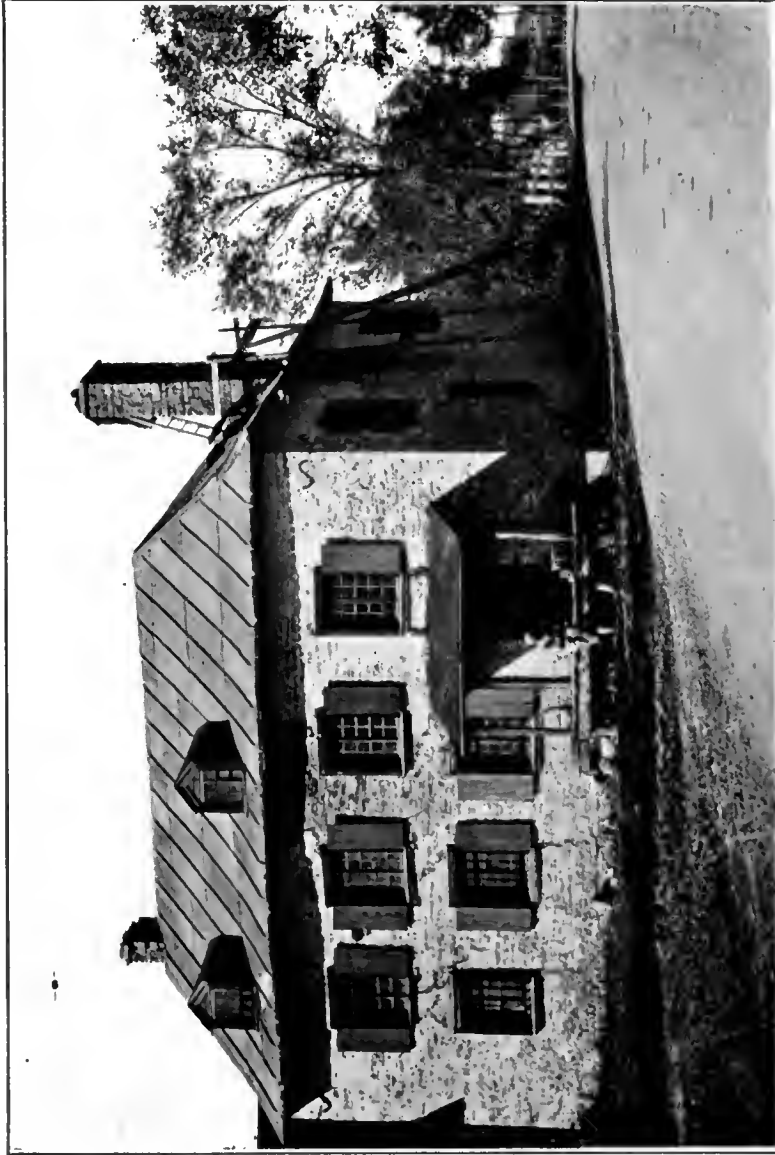
THE DUMOUCHEL HOUSE AT SAINT BENOÎT, TWO MOUNTAINS

This house was built in 1820 by J. B. Dumouchel, one of the pioneers of Saint Benoit. It has been the property of Mr. Emery Pichette since 1921.



THE OLD HOUSE OF THE SIEUR D'ARGENTEUIL AT OKA

Governor de Beauharnois permitted Sieur d'Argenteuil to build this house on the border of the Lake of Two Mountains. After his death the house went to the Seminary of St. Sulpice. The Little Sisters of the Poor have lived there since 1864 and became the proprietors of it in 1886.



THE MONK MILL AT SAINTE THÉRÈSE DE BLAINVILLE

This mill was built around 1816 by Seigneur Monk, and is still used to grind grain and to saw wood. Built on the Rivière aux Chiens, it was formerly worked by water-power, but is operated to-day by electricity. It is the property of Mr. Joseph Vendette.



THE JOHN MCKENZIE HOUSE AT TERREBONNE

John McKenzie, son of Hon. Rodrick McKenzie, was lieutenant of the Canadian Fencibles in 1818. He married Catherine, daughter of Jacob Oldham and of Madeleine Campion, and was postmaster at Terrebonne. His house is to-day the property of Mr. J. B. Hurteau.

## THE MASSON CHÂTEAU OR MANOR HOUSE AT TERREBONNE

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THE "Compagnie des Indes Occidentales" granted the Sieur Daulier-Deslandes two leagues of land fronting on the Jésus, or Rivière des Prairies, running from the limits of the de la Chesnaye seigneurie up to a point facing Ile Jésus, the depth being also two leagues. This grant was made on December 23rd, 1673; later on, this seigneurie was called Terrebonne.

M. Daulier-Deslandes never came to New France and on October 25th, 1681, he sold his seigneurie to Sieur Louis Le Compte Dupré, a rich merchant of Montreal, and following the death of M. Le Compte Dupré, his widow, Catherine Saint-Georges, sold the seigneurie to François Marie Bouat, lieutenant-general of Montreal.

In turn, Abbé Louis Lepage of Sainte-Claire, on September 12th, became proprietor of the seigneurie of Terrebonne.

After the conquest this property was sold to Messrs. McTavish and McKenzie, and was bought by the Hon. Joseph Masson on December 31st, 1832, for £25,150. Shortly after 1848 the widow of the Hon. Mr. Masson built a new seigneurial manor at Terrebonne, some six years being occupied in the construction work and the cost, it was believed, being close to \$80,000. Mrs. Masson took possession on the eve of Christmas of 1854, and it was there that the worthy "châtelaine" died on November 27th, 1883, with the saintly Bishop Bourget at her side, saying: "Yes, your house is splendid, madam, but that which you are soon to live in is still more beautiful."

By her will Mrs. Masson left the Terrebonne manor and all its dependencies to the Sisters of Providence of Montreal "to maintain there as boarders at mutually agreed upon rates respectable ladies who wish to lead tranquil lives."

The Sisters took possession of their new establishment on May 1st, 1884, and kept it until May 12th, 1888, when the Masson estate retook possession of it and for a period of fourteen years it was deserted. Finally, in the spring of 1901, the Manor was bought by the Fathers of Saint-Sacrament,



THE CHÂTEAU OR MASSON MANOR AT TERREBONNE

and, following necessary renovations, it became, in September of 1902, the training college of the Fathers.

It may be said with Father Boismenu: "Right proudly has it served the country, this venerable seigneurial mansion, sheltering one of our most illustrious Canadian families, a family which won renown in the realm of commerce and through the high public charges borne, and for 25 years it has no less nobly served religion by furnishing priests for the Church in Canada" <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Rev. Father Boismenu, S.S.S., *Les étapes d'un manoir canadien*.



THE OLD BAKERY AT TERREBONNE

This curious building was constructed between 1784 and 1795 and biscuits and hardtack were baked there for the trappers of the Northwest. The construction was probably the work of Hon. Rodrick McKenzie, one of the fur magnates of the 18th century.



THE MCKENZIE HOUSE AT TERREBONNE

Rodrick McKenzie made a considerable fortune in the fur trade after his arrival in Canada in 1784. He married Rachel Chaboillez, daughter of a famous fur trader. It was he who built this fine house. It is occupied to-day by Mrs. Léon Globensky, who first married the Hon. L. Rodrigue Masson.



THE SEIGNEURIAL MILL AT TERREBONNE

Behind an old hotel on the Boulevard at Terrebonne there still exists the flour mill which the Hon. Mr. Masson, seigneur of Terrebonne, built in 1846. It is believed that the mill was built to replace another one of smaller dimensions.

## THE MANOR OF LE GARDEUR DE REPENTIGNY AT SAINT HENRI DE MASCOUCHE

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**F**ACING the Mascouche rapids a mile and a half north of the village of Saint Henri de Mascouche, this mansion occupies the bottom of a deep gorge and presents a very picturesque aspect. With its front of 100 feet facing upon a pretty garden of trees the splendid effect is further helped by the beauty of a circular basin from the centre of which is an old-time fountain. To the rear of the edifice, which is almost at the bank of the Mascouche river, are two buildings which formerly were the servants' quarters.

The eastern section of the garden was surrounded by a strong stone wall with but one narrow doorway, but only a part of this wall now remains. According to Mr. L. A. F. Crépeau, author of "Mascouche in 1910," this manor must have been constructed by Seigneur Jean Baptiste Le Gardeur de Repentigny between 1672 and 1702. Originally it had a frontage of 50 feet, but it was enlarged later on, the size of the house being almost doubled.

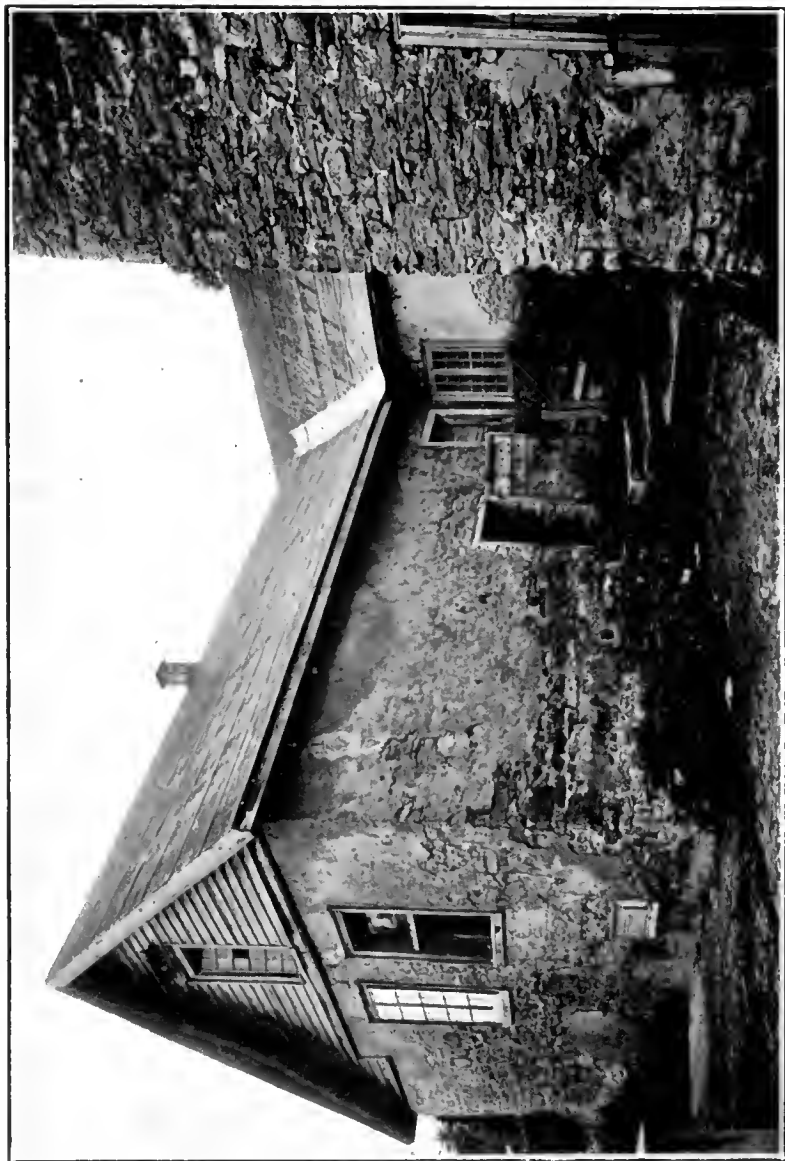
Following the conquest, this manor and that of the seigneurie of Lachenaie passed successively into the hands of the Chaussegros de Léry, Major-General Gabriel Christie, Jacob Jordan, and then to the Pangman family, and on December 10th, 1881, it became the property of Ulderic Corbeil. A flour mill and saw mill are now operated there <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Notes of Mr. E. Z. Massicotte.



LE GARDEUR DE REPENTIGNY MANOR HOUSE AT SAINT HENRI DE MASCOUCHE  
The oldest part of the manor commenced at the left and finished at the chimney, now at the centre of the house.



LE GARDEUR DE REPENTIGNY MANOR HOUSE AT SAINT HENRI DE MASCOUCHE

The two wings behind the house were built by Peter Pangnan around 1795. The left wing formed the domestic's lodgings, that to the right was the kitchen.



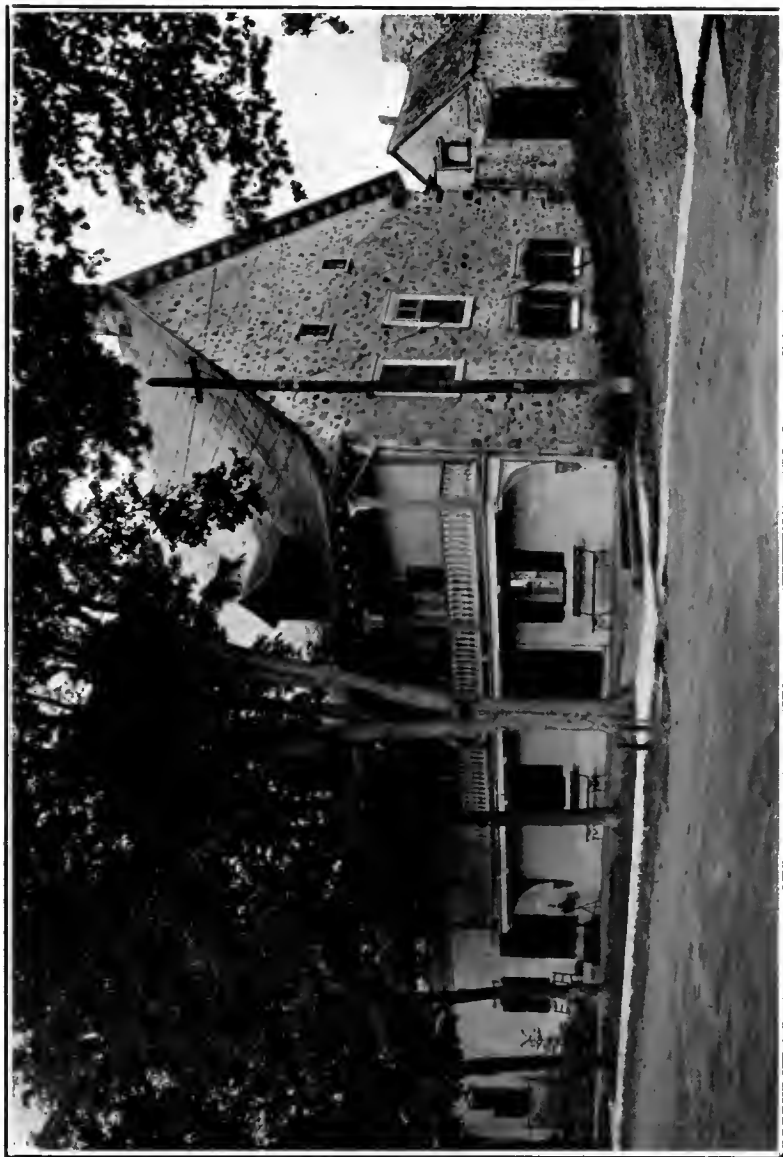
LE GARDEUR DE REPENTIGNY MANOR HOUSE AT SAINT HENRI DE MASCOUCHE

Rear view of the house, at the river's edge; east to west.



THE CHERRIER HOUSE AT REPENTIGNY

Côme Séraphin Cherrier, the eminent advocate, was born in this house July 22nd, 1798. According to tradition the Cherrier house was used as a chapel prior to the construction of the Repentigny church in 1725.



THE ARCHAMBAULT HOUSE AT L'ASSOMPTION

This is the oldest house of L'Assomption. For three-quarters of a century it was occupied by François Archambault, contractor. It is asserted that behind this house there was a stone fort the walls of which still stand, showing the loopholes.

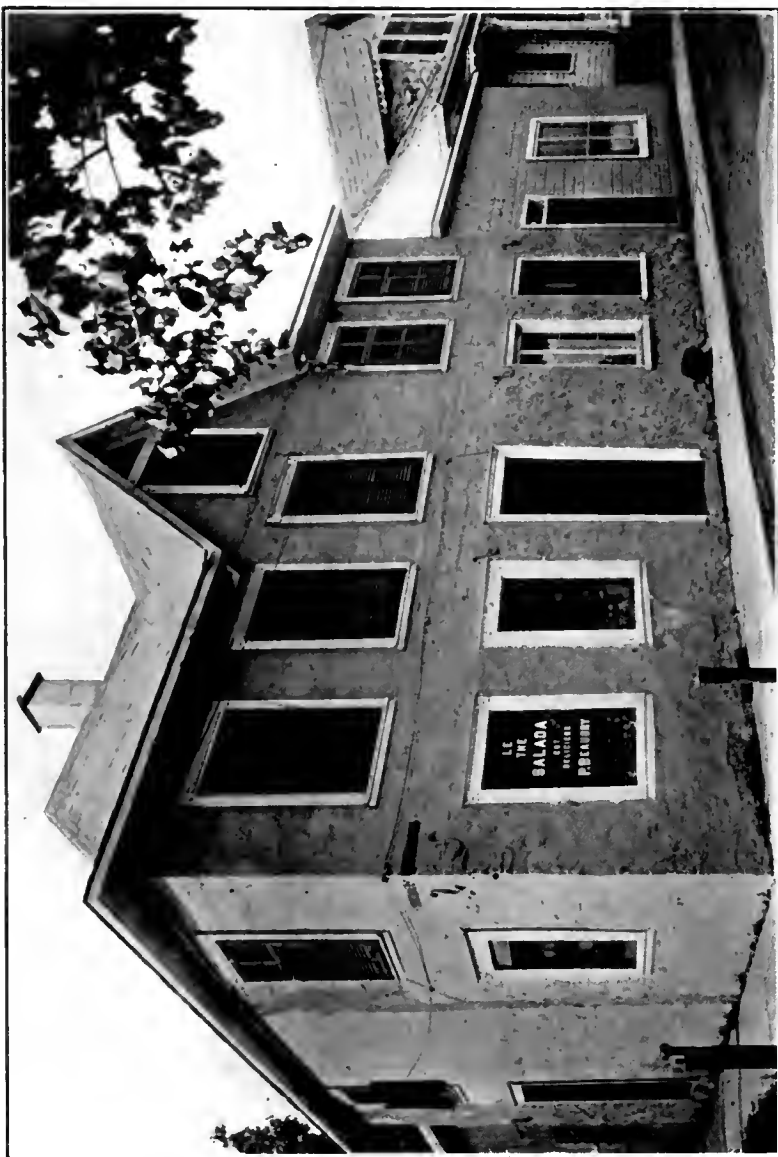
## THE MAJOR INN AT L'ASSOMPTION

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**T**HE Major Inn, now a modest grocery, was once probably the best known house of L'Assomption. From a notice published on the little town of L'Assomption in 1898 we are told the history of the Major Inn:

"The American war of 1812 produced an interesting event for those who knew and visited L'Assomption. Who did not know the soldier on horseback of the James Wright hotel? Here is what happened. After the victory of the brave de Salaberry at Châteauguay and after the disbandment of the Leinster battalion (L'Assomption) which had in its ranks several Canadians of L'Assomption, amongst others Louison Mercier, proprietor of the hotel to-day, the battalion dispersed here. However, as in those days our forbears loved to tipple and amuse themselves in the old-fashioned manner, they decided to have a tangible and durable landmark to commemorate their fortunate return from battle and the kindness they had received from their commander, Major Prévost. Therefore some of those who were carpenters and joiners cut down a giant cedar tree in the neighbouring forest and from it fashioned out the soldier which is from that time on the crupper of the roof of the James Wright hotel. They baptized it in the name of their esteemed commander: Major Prévost. That is why there was from the end of the war of 1812 a soldier, sword in hand (the good fellow Rye, it was maliciously said), on the roof of the Hotel Wright, one of the oldest and most original houses of L'Assomption and probably one of the most ancient taverns kept in the neighbourhood, if we may believe the evidence of the old timers of 80 years and over who claimed that their fathers told them that there had always been a tavern there.

"In any event it is true that the present proprietor, Mr. James Wright, a Scotchman who came to L'Assomption when 18 months old and always lived here, must be one of the oldest license holders of the Province of Quebec, since he has had issued to him his fiftieth license, if it may be said that in other days there were, properly speaking, a license system; this is the story for those who want to know the meaning of the soldier perched on the corner of the crupper of the roof."

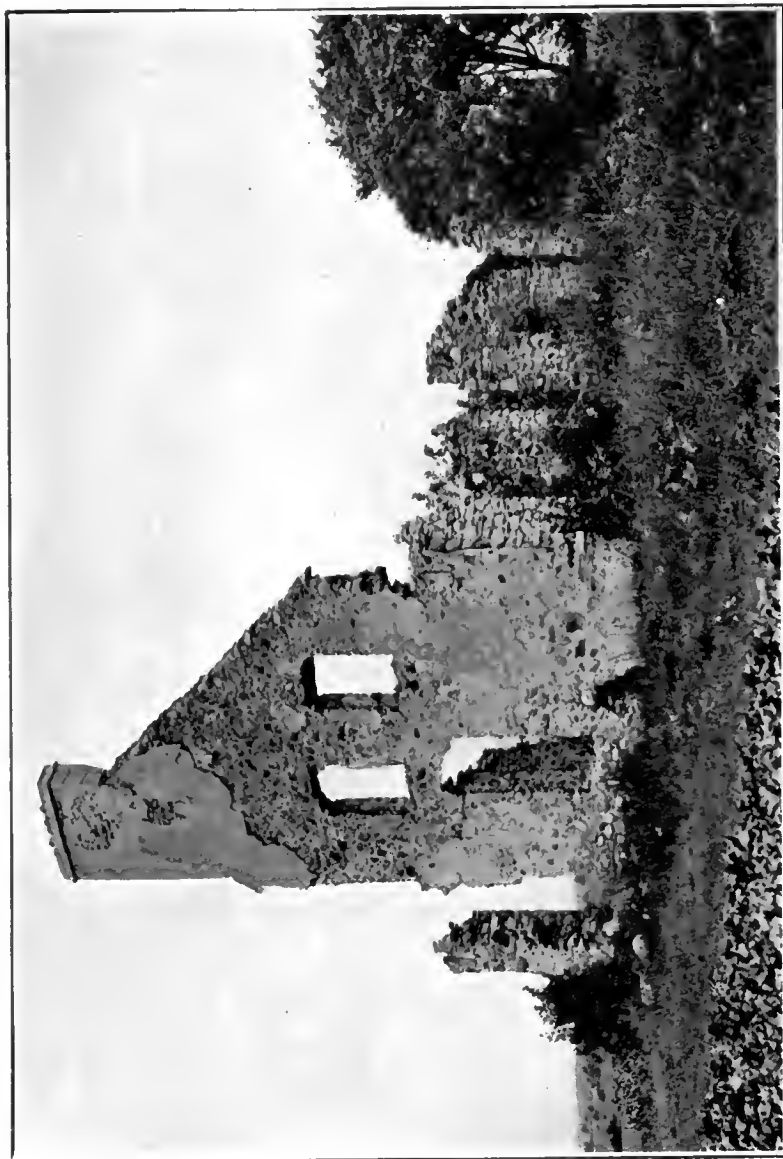


THE MAJOR INN AT L'ASSOMPTION

To this story it may be added that the statue of the “major” was removed several years ago and presented to the museum of the Château de Ramezay, where it still is <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Notes of Mr. E. Z. Massicotte.



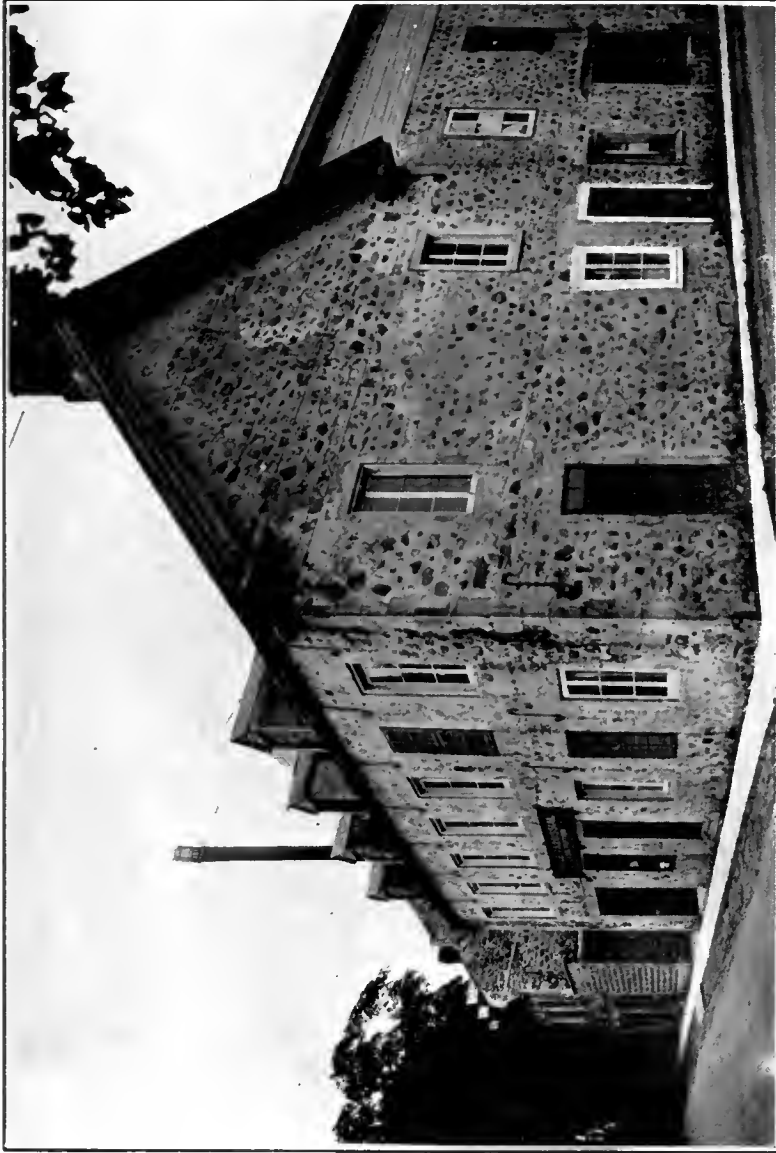
THE RUINS OF THE MANOR OF THE "SEIGNEURESSE" VIGER AT L'ASSOMPTION

This manor was burnt about 1918. It had been occupied by Marie Aurélie Faribault, wife of Charles Auguste de Saint Ours Deschallons, who died in 1837, then passed on to Hon. Louis Michel Viger, who died in 1855. Madame Viger died February 11th, 1880, at the age of 82.



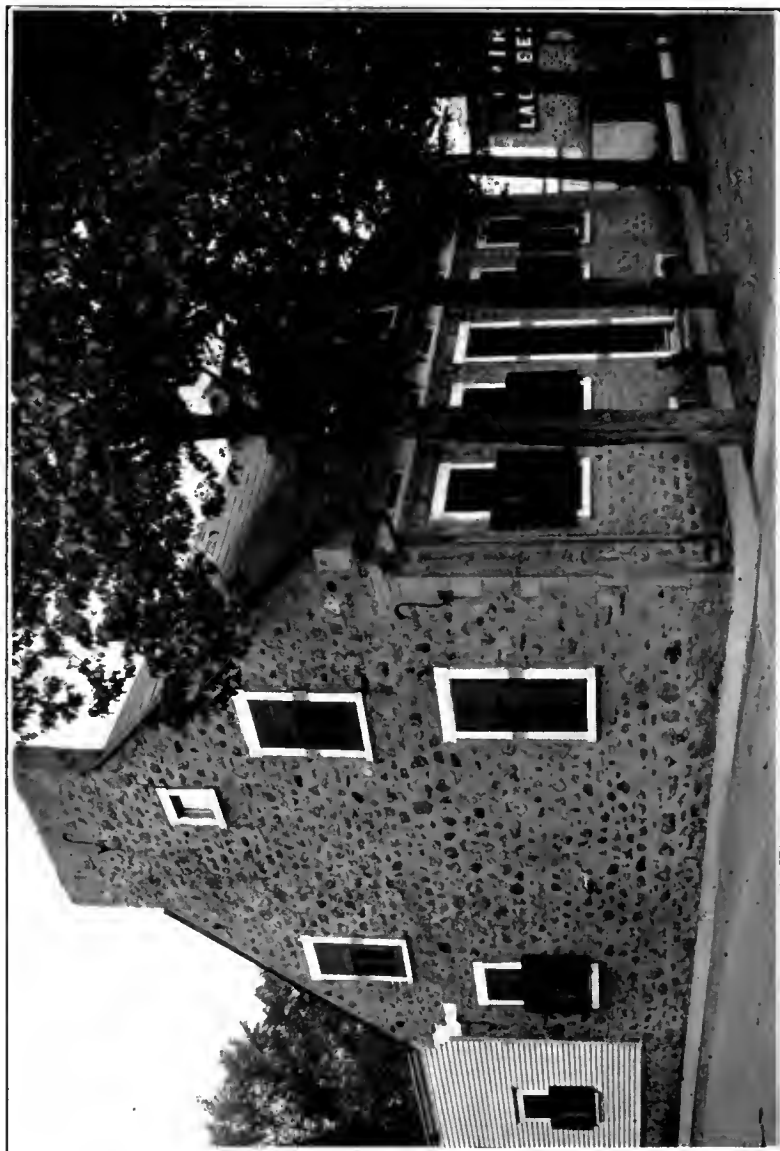
COURT HOUSE AT L'ASSOMPTION

The Court House at L'Assomption is composed of a couple of houses built in 1813 to serve as store-houses for the Northwest Company. The property was bought by the county in 1842 and in our days it is used for meetings of the parochial council, the town and county councils, the registration office and the civil courts.



THE BEAUPRÉ HOUSE AT L'ASSOMPTION'

This vast house, which now belongs to Mr. Emile Langlois, was built in 1811 by Benjamin Beaupré. Laurent Leroux, the famous western fur trader, it is said, kept a store in this house.



THE HUDSON'S BAY POST AT L'ASSOMPTION

This house, situated at the corner of Saint Etienne and Notre Dame Streets, was built in 1812 by Joseph Le Sanche to serve as a post of the Hudson's Bay Company. Above the entrance is the following inscription : "J. L. F. G. 1812." At present it is the property of Mr. Amédée Thouin, advocate.



THE PICOTTE HOUSE AT SAINT PAUL L'ERMITÉ

This house was bought in 1904 by Mr. Ferdinand Picotte, farmer. On the front is a placard bearing the inscription of 1780. It was inhabited for several generations by the Payette dit Saint Amour family.

## THE PANET MANOR AT SAINTE MÉLANIE DE JOLIETTE

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**T**HE manor house of the old d'Ailleboust seignury is situated in the principal range of the parish of Sainte Mélanie, north of Joliette. This 80-foot house was built by the Hon. Judge Pierre Louis Panet shortly after he acquired the d'Ailleboust seignury in 1800. He did not enjoy his manor for a long time, dying on December 2nd, 1812.

The Panet manor was chiefly occupied by his eldest girl, Louis Amélie, wife of Mr. William Von Moll de Berczy.

A learned magistrate wrote of Mrs. de Berczy as follows:

"It was in 1859 that I became acquainted with this remarkable woman. Though on the wane in the matter of age, she had none the less kept her spirit, her vivacity and cheerfulness of character. She at once conquered me and I was never able to entirely free myself from this sweet influence. I admit it frankly. Though she has passed away now for 25 years I still often think of her as do all those who had the great advantage of knowing her, of hearing her, and enjoying her friendship.

"It was at the foot of the Laurentides, at Sainte Mélanie d'Ailleboust in a manor renowned for its hospitality that her life flowed along so sweetly. After her marriage, at the age of 32, with Mr. William Von Moll de Berczy, who was well worthy to have such a companion, she followed him to Amherstburg, in Upper Canada, but lived there only a few years.

"In 1832, due to force of circumstances, her husband returned with her to the d'Ailleboust homestead, then standing in the midst of forests and far away from all society. It was here that they found themselves sufficient unto each other and with the means of living happy days, and, at the same time, spread happiness amongst their tenants, to whom they were an example in a thousand different ways. Mrs. Berczy was, so fate willed it, to shine no more in the fashionable world, but spend the best of her life in the sylvan retreat she had chosen with the husband she deeply loved, and



THE PANET MANOR AT SAINT MÉLANIE DE JOLIETTE

her estimable sisters, Mesdames Levesque and Globensky, leading a calm and useful life."

Cuthbert Massicotte bought the Panet manor in 1907 from the Panet estate, and his son, Delphis Massicotte, succeeded him. The seigneurie of d'Ailleboust still remains the property of the Panet heirs, and one of them, Mr. Rosaire Dupuis, notary, is now the collector of seigneurial dues <sup>(1)</sup>.

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(1) Notes of Mr E. Z. Massicotte.



THE GAGNON HOUSE AT LOUISEVILLE

At the commencement of the English régime this house became the property of the Gagnon family, which lived therein for more than a century. The renowned musicians Ernest and Gustave Gagnon and Mrs. Letondal, their sister, were born in this house, which now belongs to Mrs. Godefroy Lamirande.

## THE GÉRIN-LAJOIE HOUSE AT YAMACHICHE

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**M**R. Léon Gérin spoke as follows of the house where his father, Antoine Gérin-Lajoie, author of *Jean Rivard*, was born, August 4th, 1824:

“The wooden house, low-built but rangy, with its kitchen and shed on the gable-end, dated from the preceding century. It was one of the oldest, if not one of the most ornamental houses of the neighbourhood. In contrast to its neighbours, it stood on the south side of the main highway, between it and the river. Beyond the waving weeds of the low flat shore, shone the distant silvery surface of the lake, on which slowly glided the miniature image of a steamer or a sailing ship.

“Along the front of the house ran a narrow gallery under the eaves of the roof, and giving upon a little flower garden. To the right was a fairly large kitchen garden; to the left the bakehouse where the household bread was made; behind, the dairy installed in a little building contiguous to the kitchen. Then to the front, on the other side of the King’s highway, was the orchard, where there grew in some disarray apple trees, plum trees, cherry trees, a little plot separated from the long stable-barn by a lane which led to the pasturage, the prairie land and the grain fields, and further on to the forests and the maple grove which blotted out the horizon to the north.

“The interior of this old house had much of the charm that comes from age and simplicity. There was furniture there of the kind not often seen in these days to be noted behind old style shutters; big bedsteads made of wood, some with alcoves, chairs and tables of domestic manufacture; home-woven carpets covered the floors; there were chests, a bin, a bench-bed which served as a sofa, seat and lounge, a spinning wheel, shuttle and spindle, not to speak of holy images, of family portraits either in wooden or fir cone frames hung to the wall of the room or of the little parlor.

“Even the shed joining the old house held captivating things for me, such as scythes, sickles, and other farm implements, which it was sternly forbidden me to touch or handle. fascinating carriages or simple rigs, into which I would place

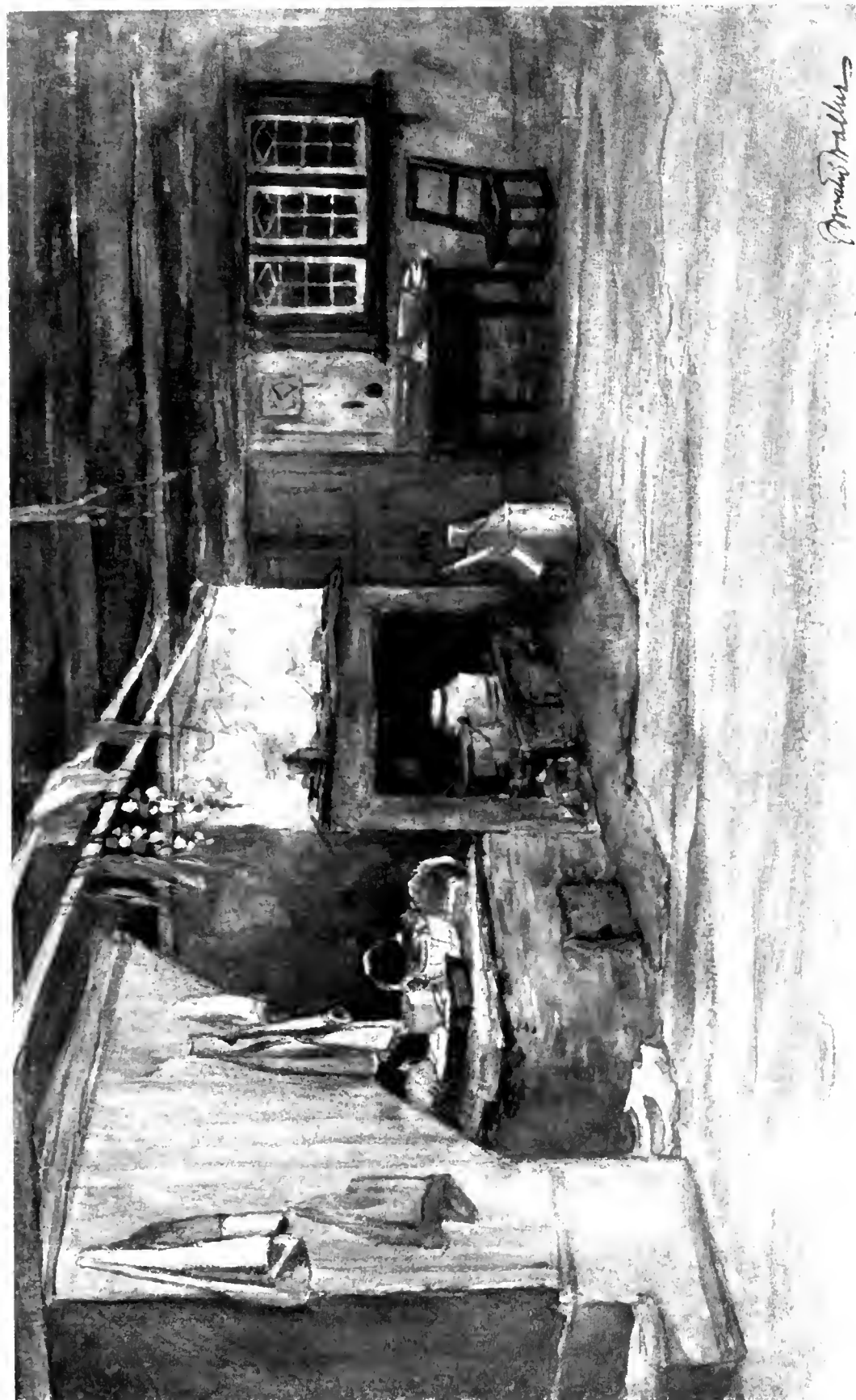


the wooden house, low-built but rangy, with its kitchen

Along the front of the house ran a narrow gallery under

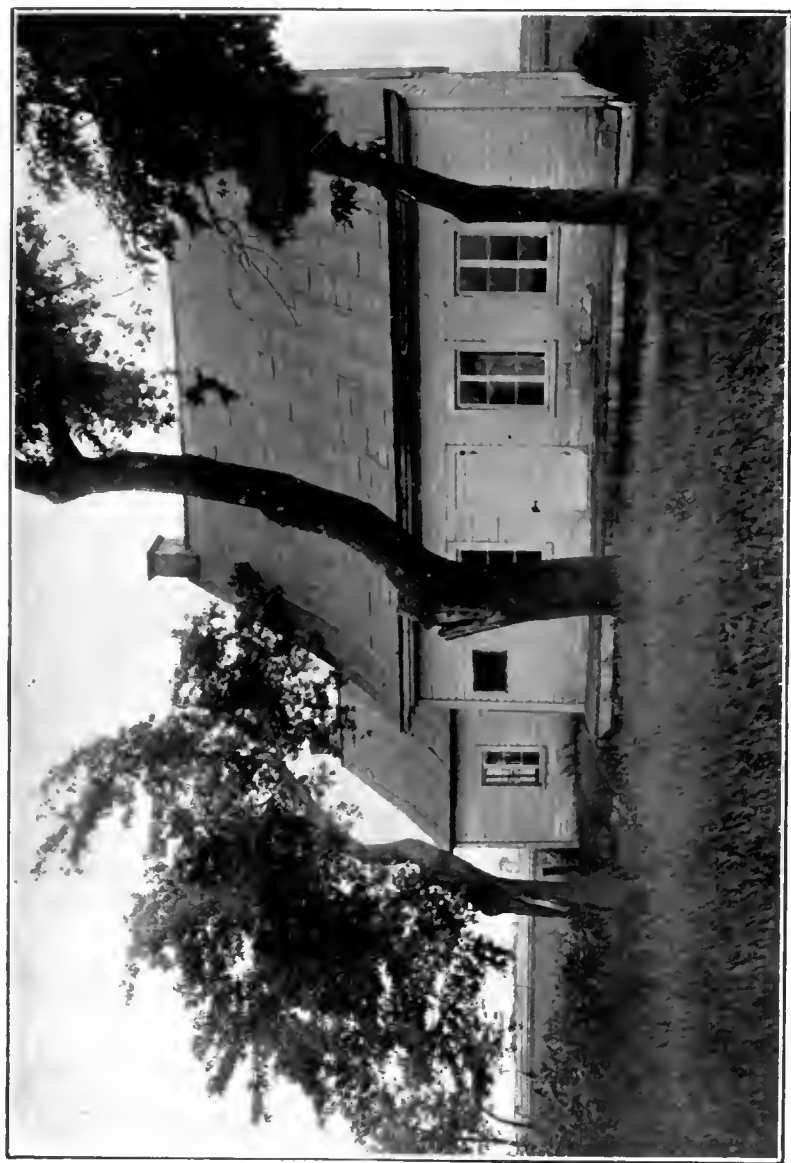
The interior of this old house had much of the charm that

... old house held captivating



Amador Trullas



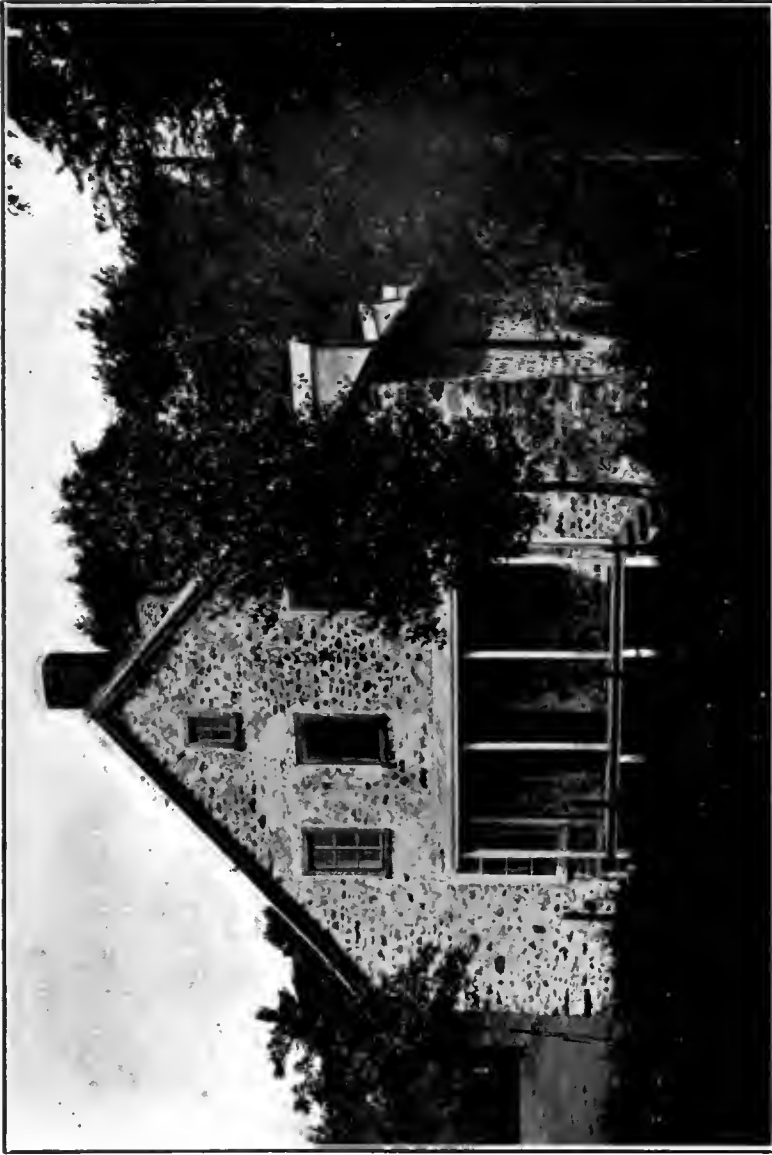


THE GÉRIN-LAJOIE HOUSE AT YAMACHICHE

myself as master and drive an imaginary horse for endless distances; a planing table used for making of many varied utensils, domestic and otherwise, pitchforks, wooden rakes, and even bows and arrows for 'Antoine's youngster' " (1).

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(1) *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*, vol. XXX, p. 294.



THE SEIGNEURIAL MILL AT LA POINTE DU LAC

This mill was built by the Seigneur Nicolas Montour shortly after he bought the seigneurie of la Pointe du Lac in 1795. It is used partly as a dormitory during the summer months by the Community of Christian Brothers, to which it has belonged since 1911.

## THE TONNANCOUR HOUSE AT THREE RIVERS

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**T**HE chief of the Godefroy family in Canada was Jean Baptiste Godefroy, sieur de Linctot, son of Pierre Godefroy and Perette Cavelier, of Linctot, in the Caux country of Normandy. He came to New France in 1626, accompanied by his brother, Thomas Godefroy de Normanville, who was captured and burned at the stake by the Iroquois in 1652.

Godefroy at first was interpreter and rendered great services to Champlain, and when in 1629 the English captured Quebec he was one of the few Frenchmen who stayed in the colony, betaking himself to the forests with the savages. In 1633 he established himself at Three Rivers. Mr. Sulte observes that he was the first of Champlain's interpreters who became a colonist.

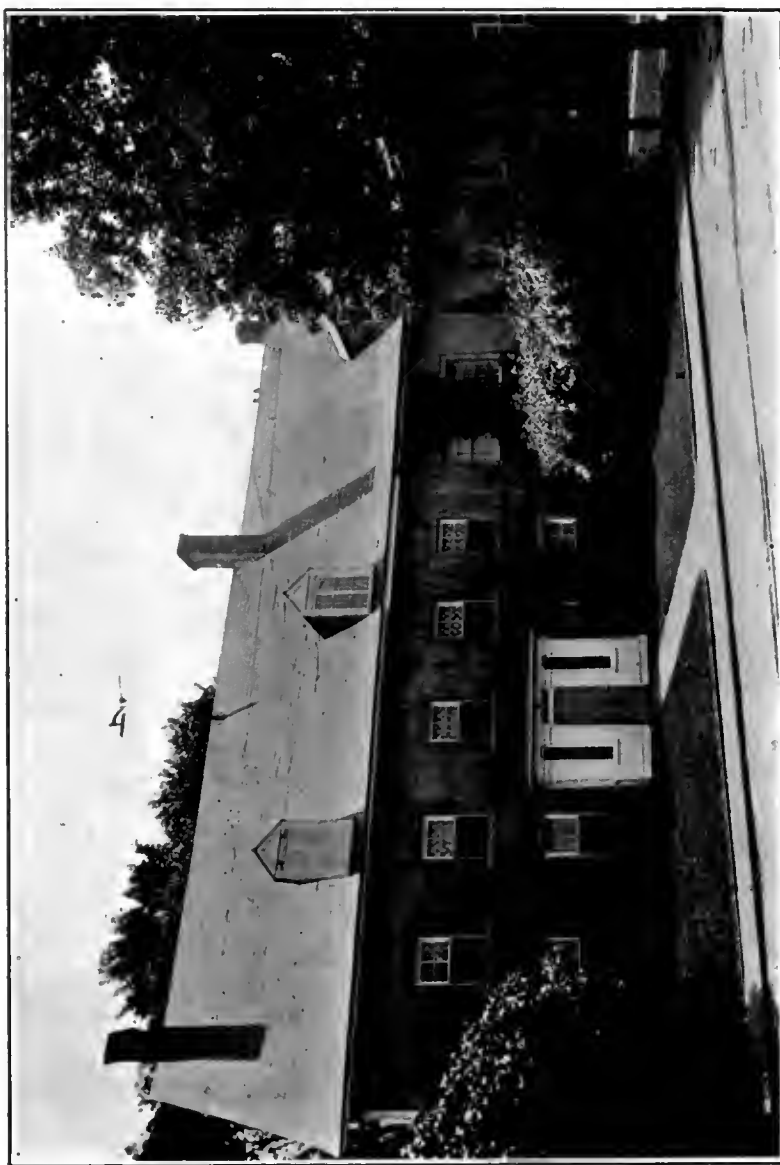
Jean Baptiste Godefroy de Linctot married Marie, daughter of Mathieu Leneuf de Hérisson and Jeanne le Marchant. Ennobled by Louis XIV in 1668, Godefroy died in 1681. He was the father of eleven children, founders of the branches of Godefroy de Linctot, Godefroy de Normanville, Godefroy de Vieux-Pont, Godefroy de Saint Paul, Godefroy de Roquetaillade and Godefroy de Tonnancour, who played an important role at Three Rivers during the whole of the French régime and the first century of the English régime.

The Tonnancour house, built at the commencement of the 18th century, was in 1738 the property of René Godefroy de Tonnancour, King's Counsel and lieutenant-general for the Three Rivers jurisdiction. In 1795 it passed into the possession of Hon. Judge Pierre Louis Brassard Deschenaux, who was the provincial judge at Three Rivers from 1794 to 1802, and it next passed under the ownership of the military authorities, who obtained it from the Deschenaux heirs and turned it into barracks, and in 1822 Mgr. Plessis authorized the fabrique of Three Rivers to buy it for a presbytery.

The old Tonnancour house, two centuries old, increased in size by the addition of a storey, and with its stone walls covered outside with a wooden wainscoting, is now occupied by the Community of the Daughters of Jesus.



THE TONNANCOUR HOUSE AT THREE RIVERS



THE OLD RECOLLECTS' CONVENT AT THREE RIVERS

Built in 1742, this convent was occupied by the Recollects up to 1776, and it was then turned into a Court of Justice, a prison, and later, a Court House. About 1823, Lord Dalhousie gave the chapel and Recollects' convent to the Anglicans of Three Rivers and since then the chapel has been used for religious purposes and the convent for a rectory.

## THE BOUCHER DE NIVERVILLE MANOR HOUSE AT THREE RIVERS

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THIS fine old house was built about 1756 by François Chastelain, an officer in the troops of the department of Marine. M. Chastelain, who was the son of a lawyer at the Châtelet, Paris, died at Three Rivers on April 29th, 1751.

He had several children, issue of his second marriage with Marguerite Cardin, who died in their early years for the most part. His daughter, Marie Josette, married Joseph Boucher de Niverville on October 5th, 1757, and through this union the François Chastelain house passed into the Boucher de Niverville family and became the manor of that family. A century later the house was acquired by Mr. Narcisse Martel, advocate, who left it to his nephew, Mr. Paul Martel, advocate, who now lives there.

In other days the Boucher de Niverville manor was surrounded by big lawns, but the necessities occasioned by the growth of a city caused their disappearance. There is to be found in *L'Histoire du monastère des Ursulines des Trois-Rivières* some interesting memories of the splendidly well-kept Boucher de Niverville manor, the story going back to the first part of the nineteenth century:

"Beneath the pines, on the church square, on Bonaventure street, in a large garden which surrounds the seigneurial manor of the Niverville fief, could be seen at a certain time of the year a multitude of little tents erected on the grass. These were the camps of the descendants of four great Indian races come to borrow from the gallant gentleman de Niverville or to receive the aid which the government granted them. These children of the forest—Têtes de Boule of the St. Maurice; Algonquins and Abénaquis of St. François du Lac, and Iroquois of St. Regis—took occasion of the event to dispose of their wicker work, their snowshoes, their beads and furs; these to negotiate with the gentlemen of the Hudson's Bay Company, and those for the sale of bark canoes" (1).

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(1) Notes of Mr. E. Z. Massicotte.



THE BOUCHER DE NIVERVILLE MANOR HOUSE AT THREE RIVERS



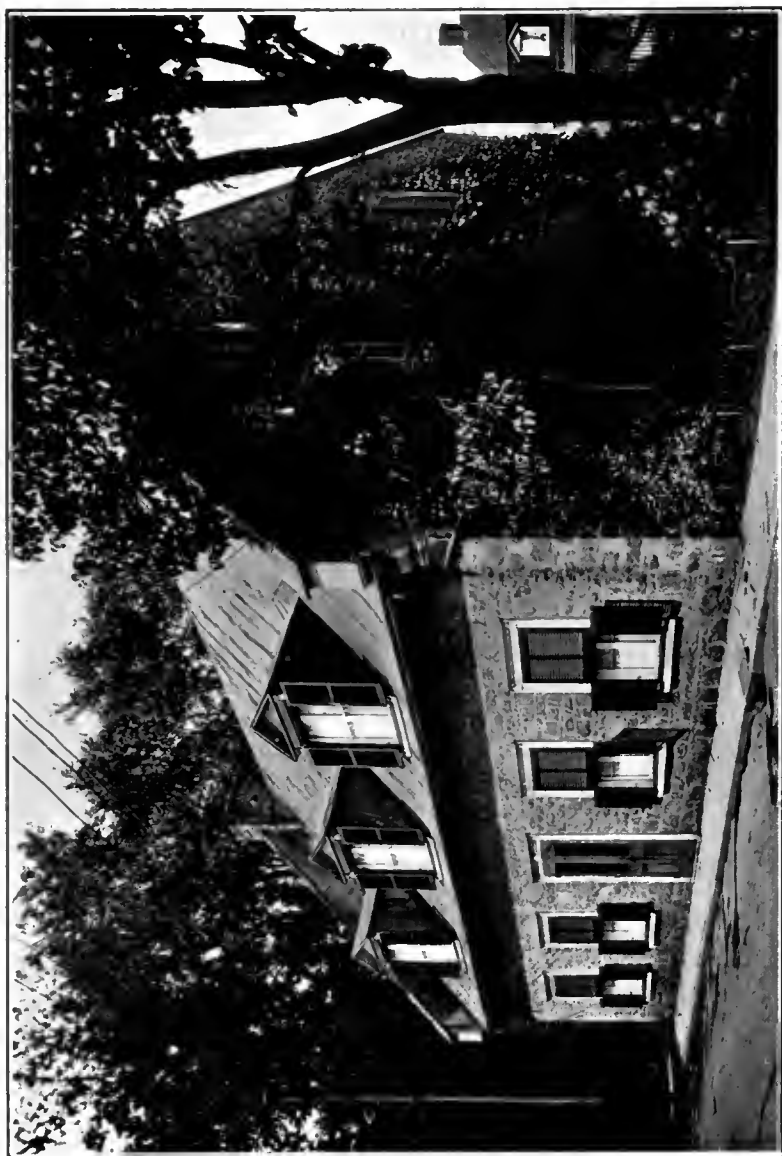
THE URSULINE MONASTERY AT THREE RIVERS

From 1697, the year of their arrival at Three Rivers, until 1700, the Ursulines lived in the house of Governor de Ramezay on the Platon, and in the latter year they secured the site which they still occupy. The monastery was burned in 1752 but rebuilt in the following year. Fire again visited it, this time in 1806, and in 1807 it was reconstructed with the same walls.



THE DE GANNES HOUSE AT THREE RIVERS

It was in 1754 that M. de Gannes, major of the Three Rivers troops, bought the site at the corner of Notre Dame and Saint Francois Xavier Streets and replaced the wooden house he found there by a stone house. Judge Vallières de Saint Réal lived in this house.



THE HERTEL DE LA FRENIERE HOUSE AT THREE RIVERS

This house was certainly constructed before 1791 since it is mentioned in the will of Antoinette Bouton, widow of Joseph Hertel de Cournoyer, sieur de la Frenière, drawn up by Notary Badeaux October 20th, 1791.



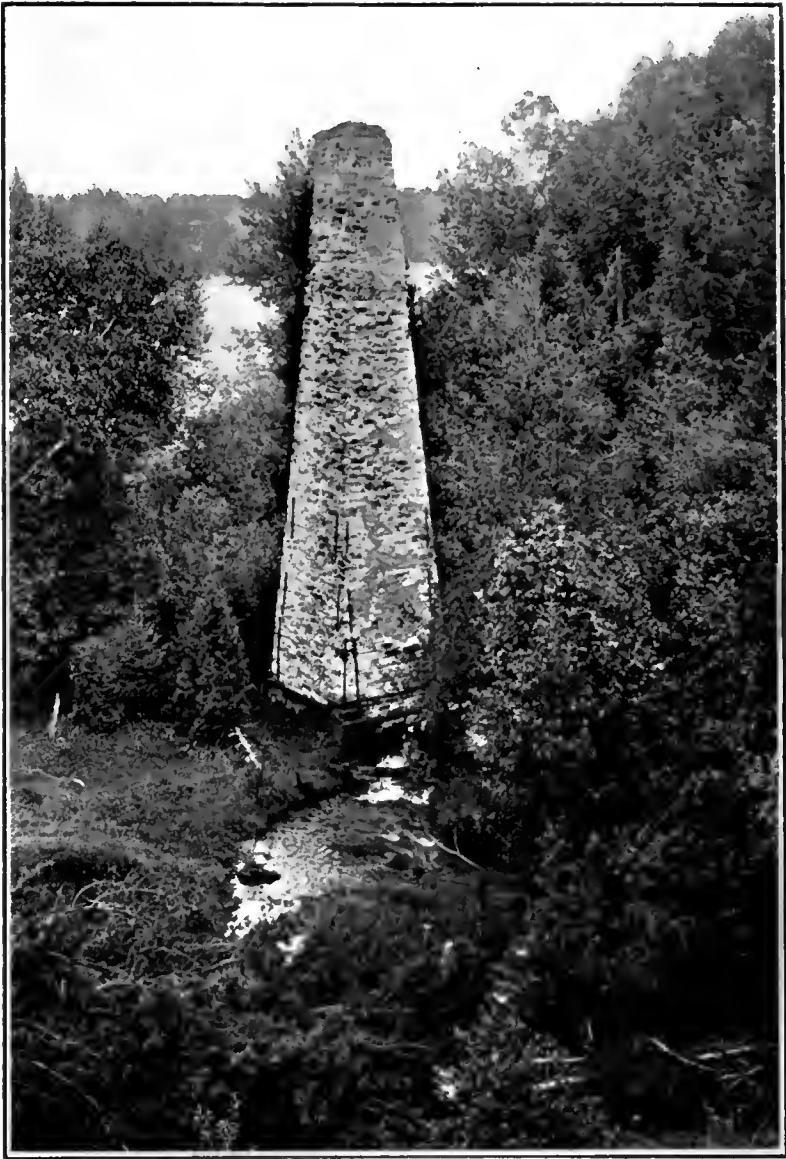
THE THREE RIVERS WINDMILL

This mill was built in 1781 by Nathaniel Day, adjutant-general of the troops at Quebec, partly with stones of a still older mill which had been erected in 1697 by Messrs. Longval and Laframboise. The Day heirs in 1800 sold the mill to Louis Gouin, following which sale the ownership changed several times until the city of Three Rivers bought it in 1859.



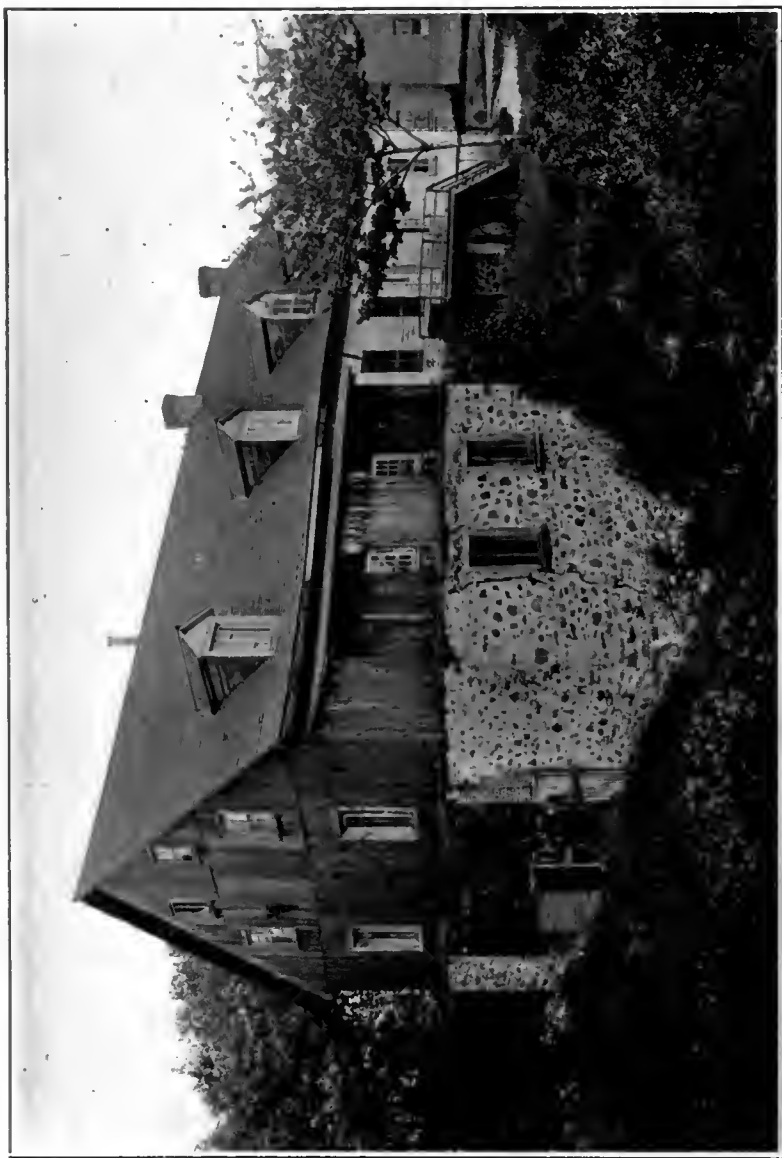
THE RUINS OF THE "GRANDE MAISON" AT SAINT MICHEL DES FORGES

The "Grande Maison" was the principal building of the Saint Maurice iron works. Only a few ruins remain, and they soon will disappear.



THE RUINS OF THE ST. MAURICE IRON WORKS AT SAINT MICHEL DES FORGES

The old iron works of Saint Maurice are now in the new parish of Saint Michel des Forges. Year by year the ruins of this once great establishment are disappearing, and soon no traces will remain. The above photograph gives an idea of the condition of the chimney of the old works between the hill and the Saint Maurice river, as they were in August of 1926. This photograph was taken from west to east.



THE SEIGNEURIAL MILL AT CAP DE LA MADELEINE

This mill was built by the Jesuits, seigneurs of Cap de la Madeleine, for the use of their "censitaires." Previously it was called the commonplace mill of the Jesuits, and, at times, the River Faveral mill.

## THE PRESBYTERY-MANOR OF BATISCAN

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**I**T was on March 3rd, 1639, that the Rev. Jacques de la Ferté, chaplain in ordinary to the King, Abbé of Sainte Madeleine de Châteaudun, chorister and canon of the Holy Chapel of the Royal Palace at Paris, one of the associates of the Company of New France, granted to the Jesuit Fathers established in New France, what a little later on became known as the Batiscan seigneurie. This concession as described in the Act of donation received the same day by Notaries Hervé Bergeron and Jérôme Cousinet of the Châtelet of Paris, was given "for the love of God."

The Jesuit Fathers officially took possession of their concession on October 10th, 1662, Brother François Malherbe, procurator for the missions at Three Rivers and Cap de la Madeleine, going to Batiscan with witnesses on that day and taking possession of the property according to the usages of the time, that is to say, in "plucking weeds and casting stones." The witnesses to the act of taking possession were Guillaume de Larue and Adrien Guillot.

To the east of the village of Batiscan there is to be seen, between the main highway and the river, a big house of stone which during many years served as a manor and presbytery. It fronts to the river's edge, for in other days the highway ran along the south of the building. Nearby was the old Batiscan church, of which some traces still remain in the ground. Documents are lacking to tell us when this old house was built, but it was certainly in the seventeenth century.

The spacious residence is to-day the property of Mr. Albert Décary and is in an excellent state of conservation. The windows with their panes of glass of seven and a half by eight and a half inches, as well as the shutters, are intact. The inside woodwork, which is entirely of pine, is exactly what it was 200 years ago; neither oil nor paint has ever touched it. In the house are to be found hinges, locks, latches, and bolts, in iron or brass, which were placed in the seventeenth century. In short, the ancient presbytery-manor of Batiscan is probably the best preserved old house in Canada, and honour is due to Mr. Décary and to its former proprietors <sup>(1)</sup>.

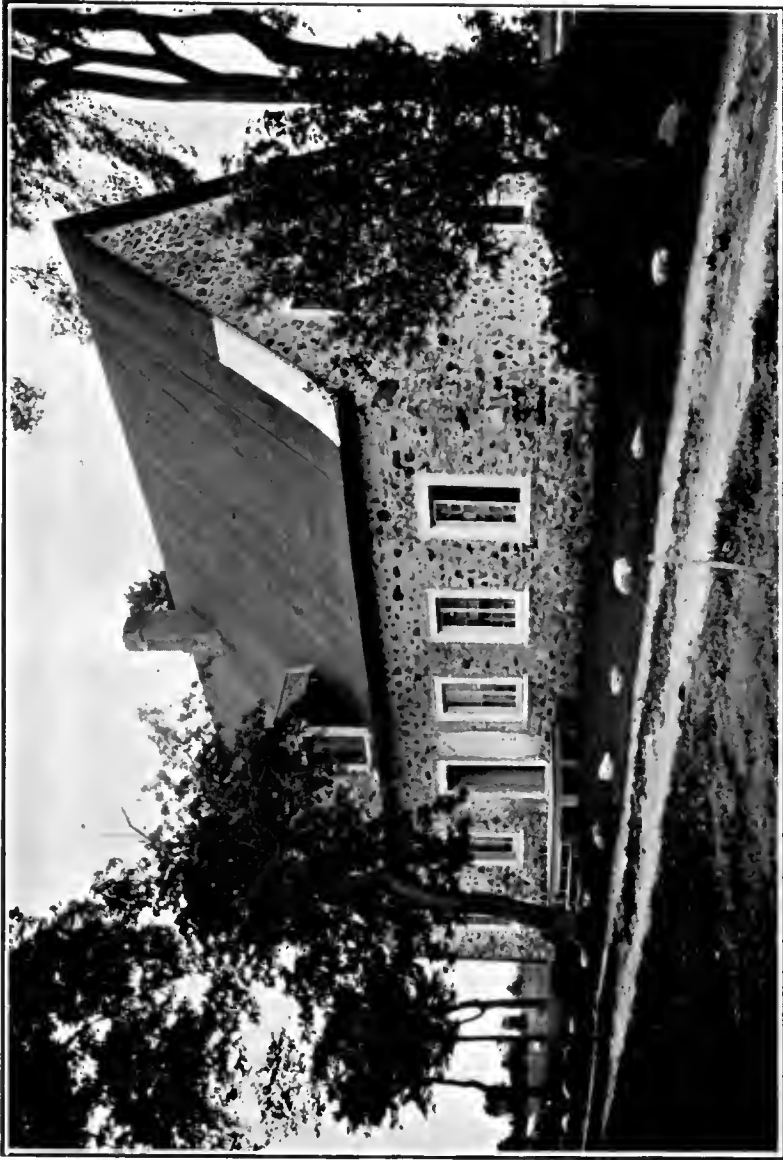
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<sup>(1)</sup> Notes of Mr. E. Z. Massicotte.



THE MANOR-PRESBYTERY OF BATISCAN

Old front at the time when the highway passed between the house and the river.



THE MANOR-PRESBYTERY OF BATISCAN  
Present front, south of the national highway.



THE MANOR-PRESBYTERY OF BATISCAN  
Latch of one of the inner doors.



THE MANOR-PRESBYTERY OF BATISCAN  
Showing a close-up view of the hinge of an inner door.



THE MANOR-PRESBYTERY OF BATISCAN  
One of the interior doors of this old house.

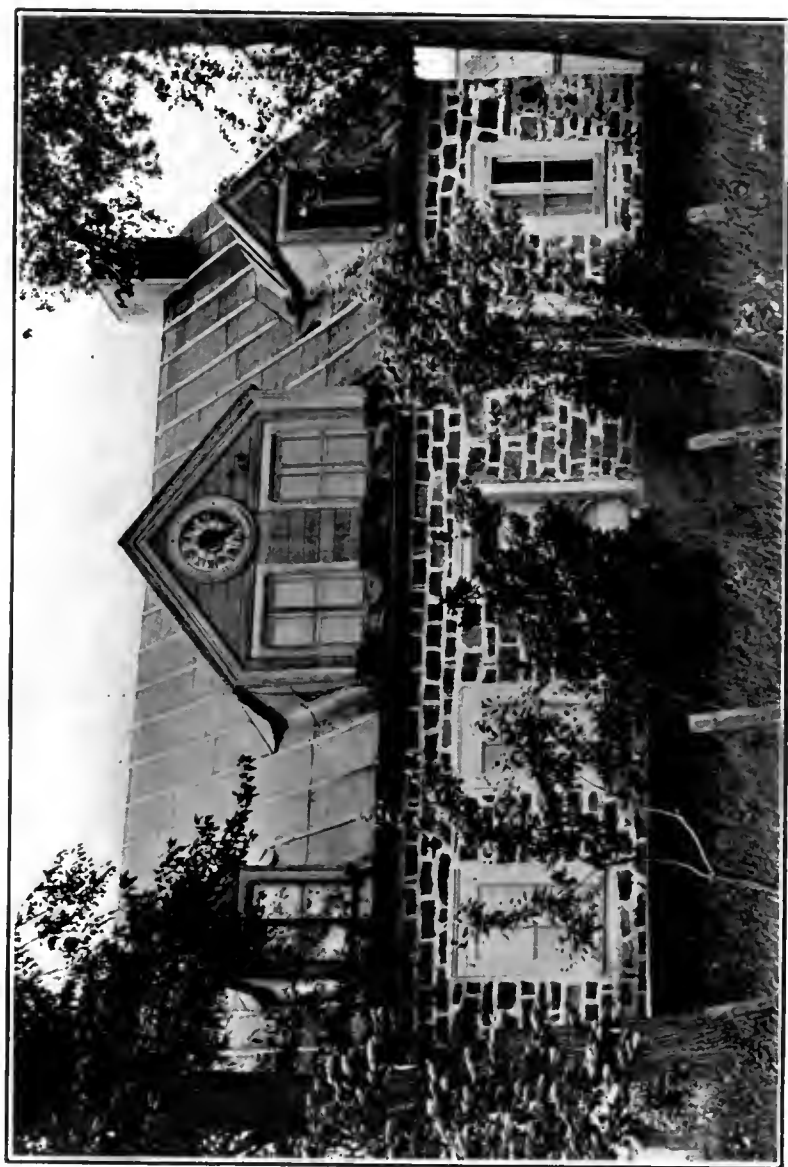


THE MANOR-PRESBYTERY OF BATISCAN  
Close-up view of the woodwork.



THE MANOR-PRESBYTERY OF BATISCAN

Close-up view of one of the windows with its glass panes dating back to the eighteenth century.



THE CADRAN HOUSE AT SAINT PROSPER DE CHAMPLAIN

This house, built by Augustin Massicotte around 1820, has on the front a fairly large dial. The sieur Massicotte bought this old public clock in the course of one of his voyages to Quebec and made it a point to decorate his principal dormer window with it.

## THE DE LA PÉRADE MANOR AT STE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE

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**T**HIS is the manor where Marie Anne Jarret de Verchères died on August 8th, 1747. She was the wife of Pierre Thomas Tarieu de la Pérade, but better known in history as the heroine of Verchères. She lived a little more than forty years in this manor.

The de la Pérade manor was built in three sections. That of the north-east, of one storey, fifty feet in front and twenty-six feet in depth, of stone from the sea shore, dates back to 1673. It was built by Thomas Xavier Tarieu de Lanouguère (Lanaudière), an officer of the Carignan regiment, and joint seigneur with his comrade-in-arms, Edmond de Suève, of the seigneurie of Ste Anne or de la Pérade.

The central part is of twenty-six feet in front by thirty-six feet in depth, and was built by Pierre Thomas Tarieu de la Pérade four years after his marriage with Marie Madeleine de Verchères. This section was raised by two additional storeys in 1873 by Pamphile P. V. Du Tremblay, captain of militia and seigneur Dorvilliers, and Mrs. Marie Clementine Dufort, his wife, who owned the manor since 1867.

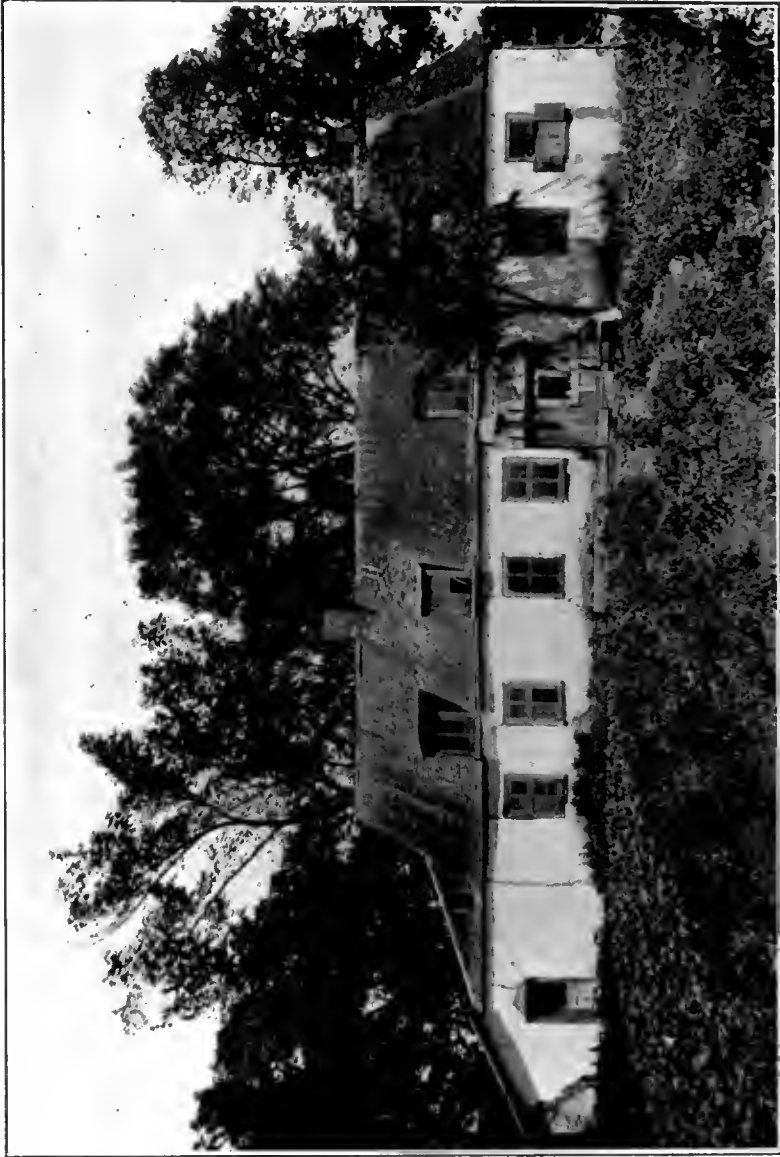
Lastly, the section to the south-west was built in 1825, one storey high, with a frontage of twenty-six feet, by the Hon. John Hale, member of the Legislative Council and seigneur de la Pérade, so that he might receive Lord Dalhousie, governor of Canada. At this time the highway was to the south-east of the manor, on the hill, and in 1845, Hon. Mr. Hale succeeded in having it removed so as to run along the north-west of the manor.

In 1891, Hon. Mr. Mercier, Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, who had bought the manor de la Pérade, received the pontifical zouaves there and even held there a couple of meetings of the Executive Council of the Province.

We have just seen that Lord Dalhousie was a guest of the Hon. Mr. Hale at the manor de la Pérade. Under the French régime, the seigneurial house also received distinguished visitors. Governors de Vaudreuil and de Beauharnois stopped at the manor two or three times to greet Mr. de la Pérade and his wife, the heroic Madelon <sup>(1)</sup>.

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(1) Notes of Mr. Pamphile P. V. Du Tremblay.

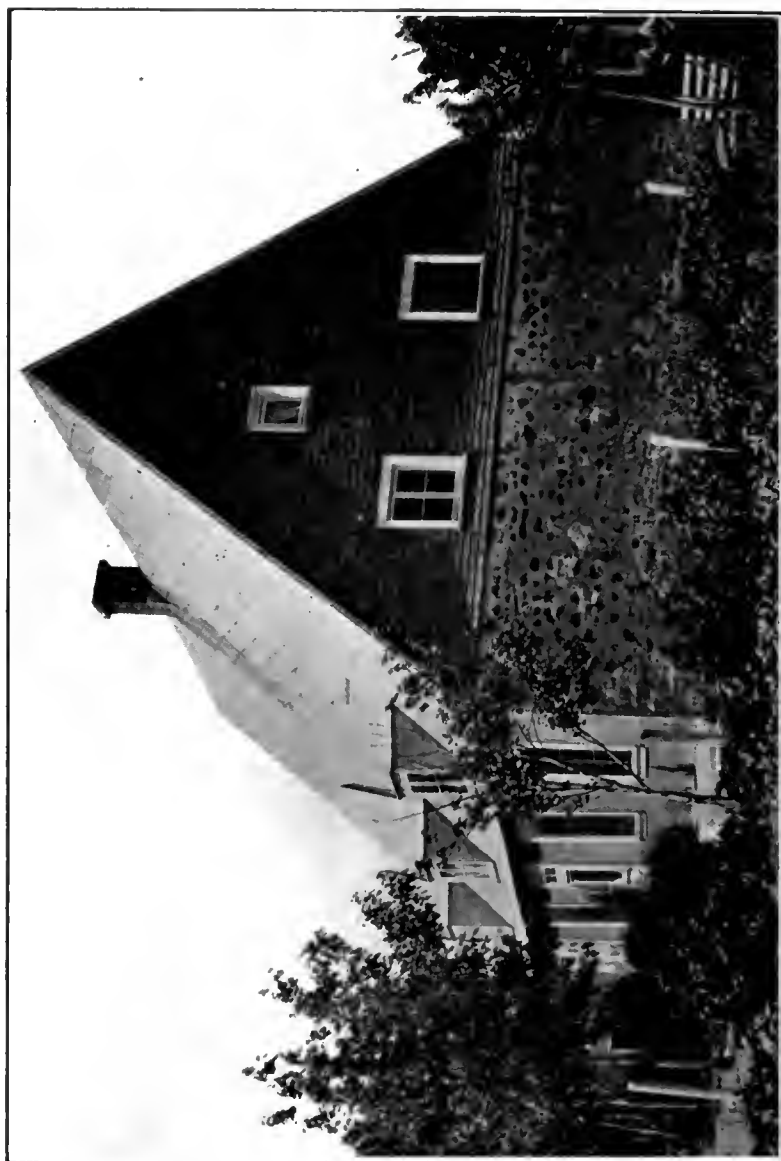


THE OLD DE LANAUDIÈRE MANOR AT SAINTE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE  
Old front, facing the river. The highway now passes to the east of the house.



THE OLD DE LANAUDIÈRE MANOR AT SAINTE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE

This view shows the present front.



THE HOUSE OF JOSEPH C. BARIBEAU AT SAINTE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE

This house was built in 1723 by Pierre Rivard Lanouette, captain of the sea coast. It has been in the possession of the Lanouette family for more than two centuries. The present proprietor inherited it from his mother, *née* Lanouette.



THE LEBEUF HOUSE AT SAINTE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE

The Ephrem Charest house at Sainte Anne de la Péraide, near Saint Casimir, constructed in 1818, is now the property of Mr. Benoît Lebeuf. It dominates a hillock, the base of which is bathed by the St. Anne river.



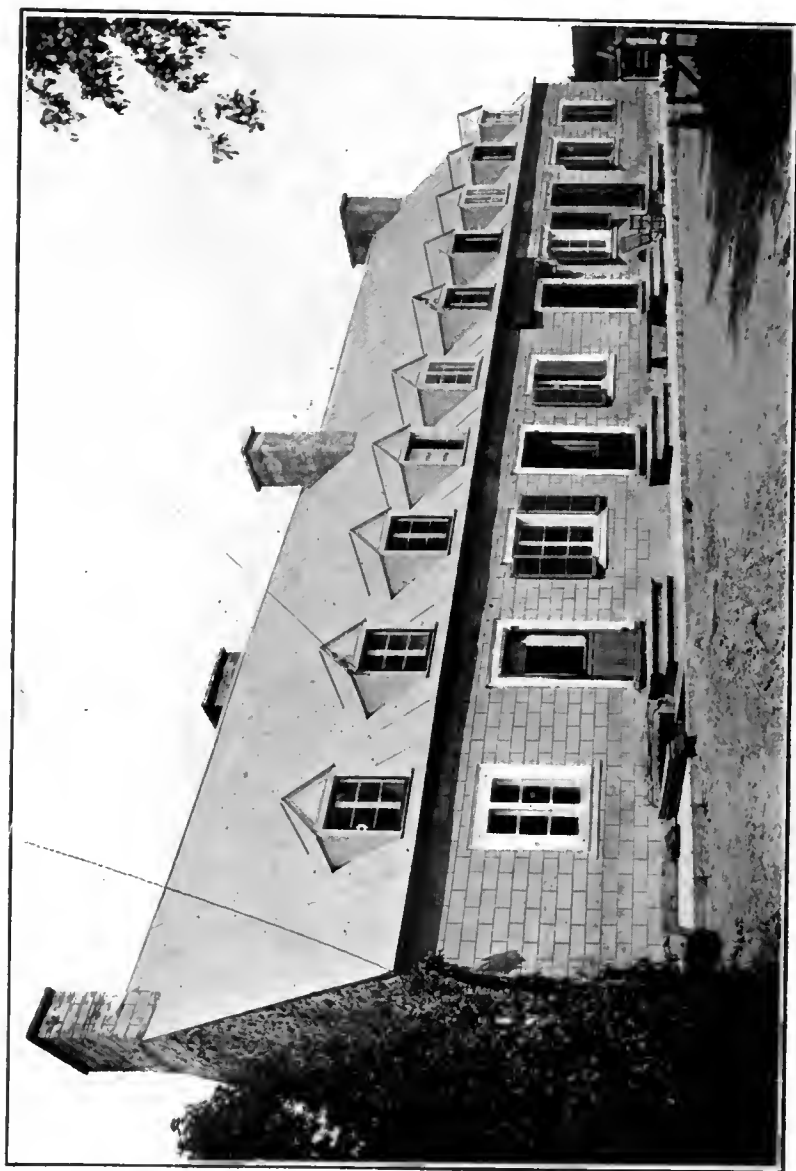
THE ROSS HOUSE AT SAINTE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE

This house was built by George McIntosh Ross, father of the Hon. John Jones Ross, who was Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec and Speaker of the Senate of Canada. He was born in the house and lived there.



THE GOUIN-BUREAU HOUSE AT SAINTE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE

Occupied at present by Raoul Du Tremblay, farmer, this house was built in 1669 and repaired by Michel Fillion in 1772. This is the ancestral home of Sir Lomer Gouin and Hon. Senator Jacques Bureau.



THE DORION HOUSE AT SAINTE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE

The Dorion House, now the property of Dr. F. A. Marcotte, former deputy of Champlain, appears to have been constructed in 1720 by Joseph Gouin. Much later it came into the possession of Pierre Dorion, merchant, who was deputy for Champlain. It was in this house that his sons were born, namely, Sir Antoine Aimé Dorion, Eric Dorion, nicknamed "l'Enfant terrible," and Canon J. H. Dorion.



THE HOUSE OF MR. PAMPHILE P. V. DU TREMBLAY, SAINTE ANNE DE LA PÉRADE

The house of Mr. Pamphile P. V. Du Tremblay, civil engineer and surveyor, seigneur of the Dorvilliers manor, was built shortly after 1669 by Pierre Farot dit Laprarie, who was granted the land on which the residence stands. In 1820 it was renovated by Augustin Baribeau, one of the heirs of the Dorvilliers seigneurie.



THE MÉTHOT HOUSE, SAINT PIERRE LES BECQUETS

Apparently erected by the Honourable François Baby, this residence passed to François Xavier Alfred Ovide Méthot, who sat as member for Nicolet first in the Quebec Legislature then in the House of Commons, and was Legislative Councillor for the division of la Vallière. He died here October 20, 1908.



THE DÉSILETS HOUSE, BÉCANCOUR

Built in 1821, this house was purchased by Abbé François Lejanitel de la Blouterie, parish priest of Bécancour from 1819 to 1829, who resided in it until his death in 1835. The present occupant is the widow of the late Dr. Honoré Désilets.

## THE MONTESSON ISLAND MANOR, BÉCANCOUR

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**P**RIOR to November 14, 1684, the seignury of Bécancour was known by the name of Rivière Puante. The first seigneur was Pierre Le Gardeur de Repentigny, from whom the estate passed to his son, Charles Le Gardeur de Villiers. Philippe Gaultier de Comporté was the next seigneur, and he sold the seignury in 1684 to Pierre Robineau de Bécancour, who gave it his name.

In 1708, M. de Bécancour ceded a part of his seignury so that the Abénakis might settle there, it being understood that, in the event of the Indians leaving, the ceded land would return to the possession of the seigneur. The Abénakis settled on the island, known to-day as Montesson; the very same year, a little wooden church was built on the island.

Father de Charlevoix, writing in 1721 of the Abénakis, said:

“The Abénakis village at Bécancour has now less people than it had some years ago. Nevertheless, they would be of great aid to us were the war to recommence. These Indians are our best partisans in the country, and are always ready to enter New England, where their name alone has often caused terror even as far as Boston. They are all Christians, and a nice little chapel has been built for them, where they follow the exercises of the Christian worship.”

The same writer also reveals that M. de Bécancour lived with the Indians on Montesson Island:

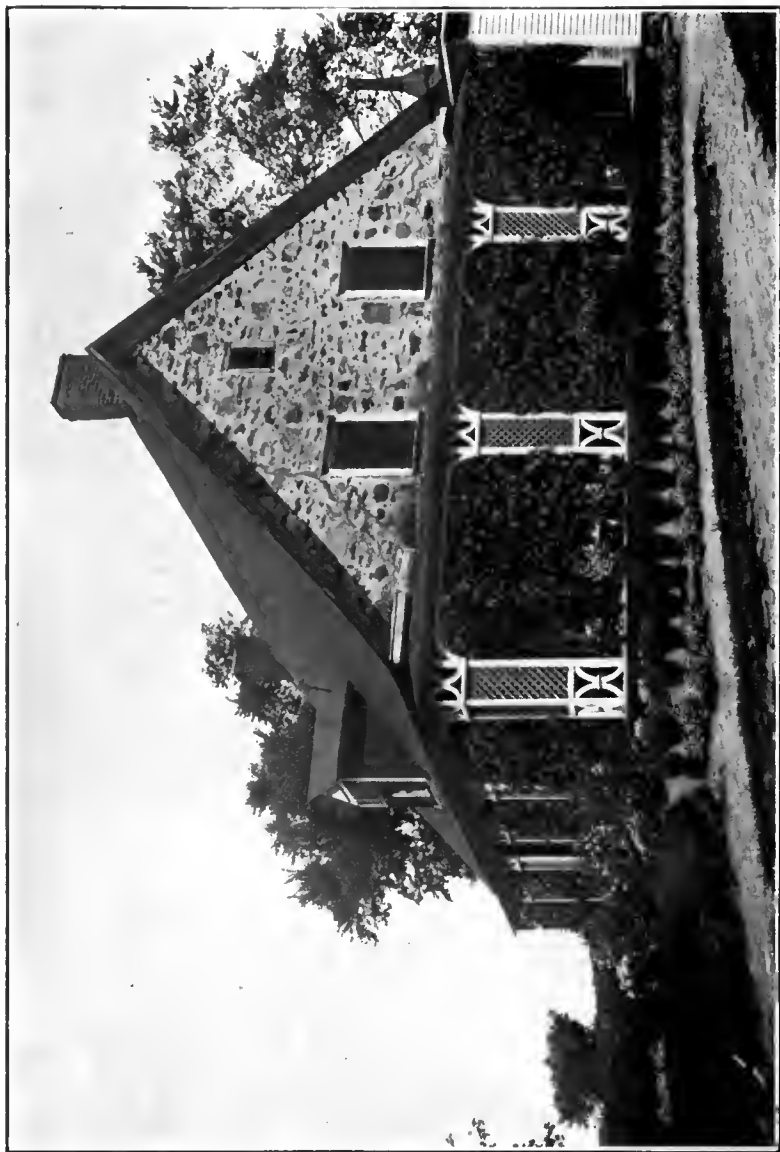
“M. de Bécancour's life in this desert—for there is no settler other than the seigneur—naturally recalls those ancient patriarchs who never disdained to share with their servants the labour of the country and lived almost as humbly. The profit he can derive from trade with his neighbours the Indians, by buying pelts direct from them, fully equals the rents he would get from settlers, had he divided up his lands.”

Joseph Michel Le Gardeur de Croizille et de Montesson, who purchased the seignury of Bécancour in 1755, did not agree with the Abénakis, who quit the island of Montesson in 1771. Later, Pierre de Sales Laterrière, first inspector and



THE MANOR HOUSE, MONTESSON ISLAND, BÉCANCOUR

ultimately general manager of the Saint Maurice ironworks, lived on the island for some years. His Memoirs contain several references to this. It is thought that the present manor house on Montesson Island was the work of Mr. Laterrière. Subsequently it was bought and restored by Mr. Macdonald. Mr. Hector Picher is the present owner.



THE LEMAY HOUSE, NICOLET

This residence was built before 1794 by Jean Baptiste Beaubien, son of Louis Trottier de Beaubien, who had been in possession of the site even prior to 1752. The present resident is Mr. Adolphe Lemay, who married Miss Luce Beaubien.

## THE LOZEAU MANOR, NICOLET

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**J**EAN Baptiste Lozeau was the grandson of Jean Lozeau, a Quebec blacksmith. His father, Augustin Lozeau, went to Nicolet in the middle of the 18th century and there opened a store. Possessor of an excellent commercial education, Jean Baptiste followed in his father's footsteps, and his business speedily became highly prosperous.

With his profits, sieur Lozeau commenced buying seigneuries, considering them investments of the first order. He bought the greater part of the seigneuries of Baie du Febvre, Godefroy, Roquetaillade (Saint Grégoire), Nicolet and Courval. He died March 19, 1822, and five months later his wife followed him in the tomb.

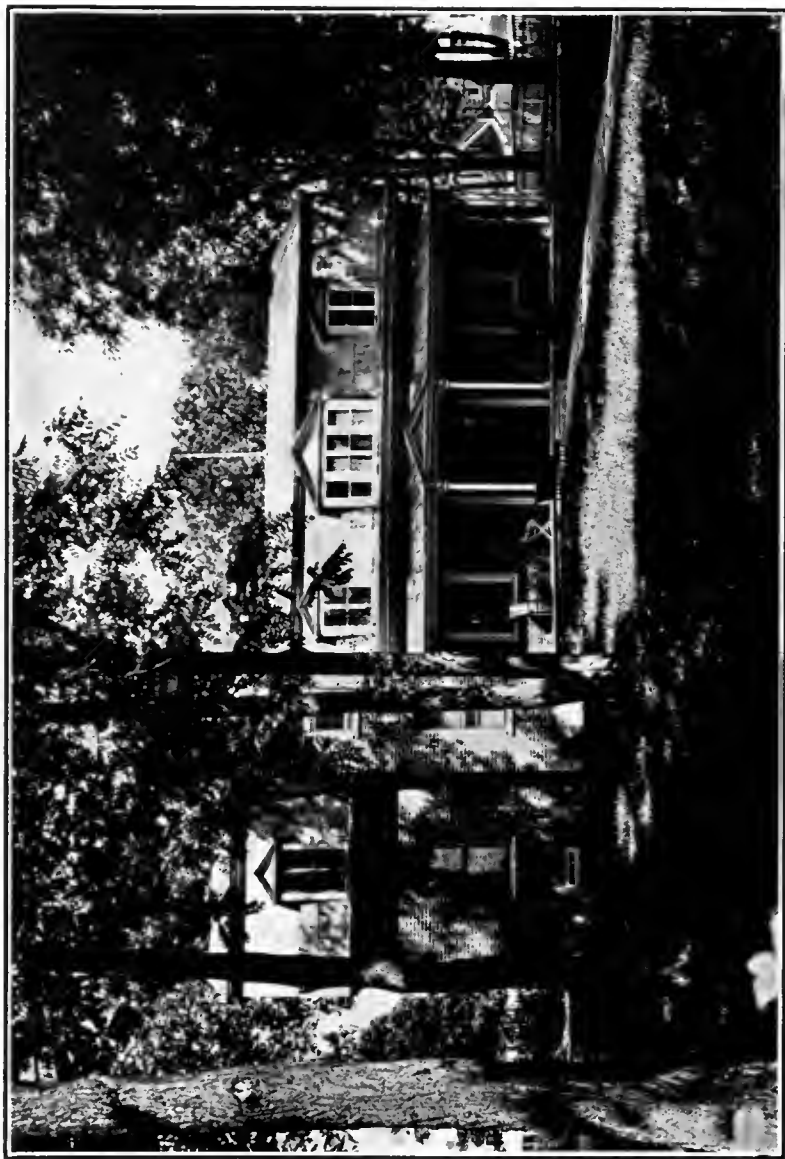
Two daughters, Emélie and Marie Louise, survived. Emélie, the elder, in 1848 became the wife of Philippe Cressé, grandson of the last seigneur of that name. Marie Louise, the younger, in 1838 married René Kimber, a lawyer of Saint Grégoire. On becoming widowed, she married Hippolyte Pacaud.

After the death of seigneur Lozeau, Mr. and Mrs. Cressé occupied his Nicolet manor house. Mrs. Cressé died in this house in November, 1897, at the age of 87 years and five months, being without issue.

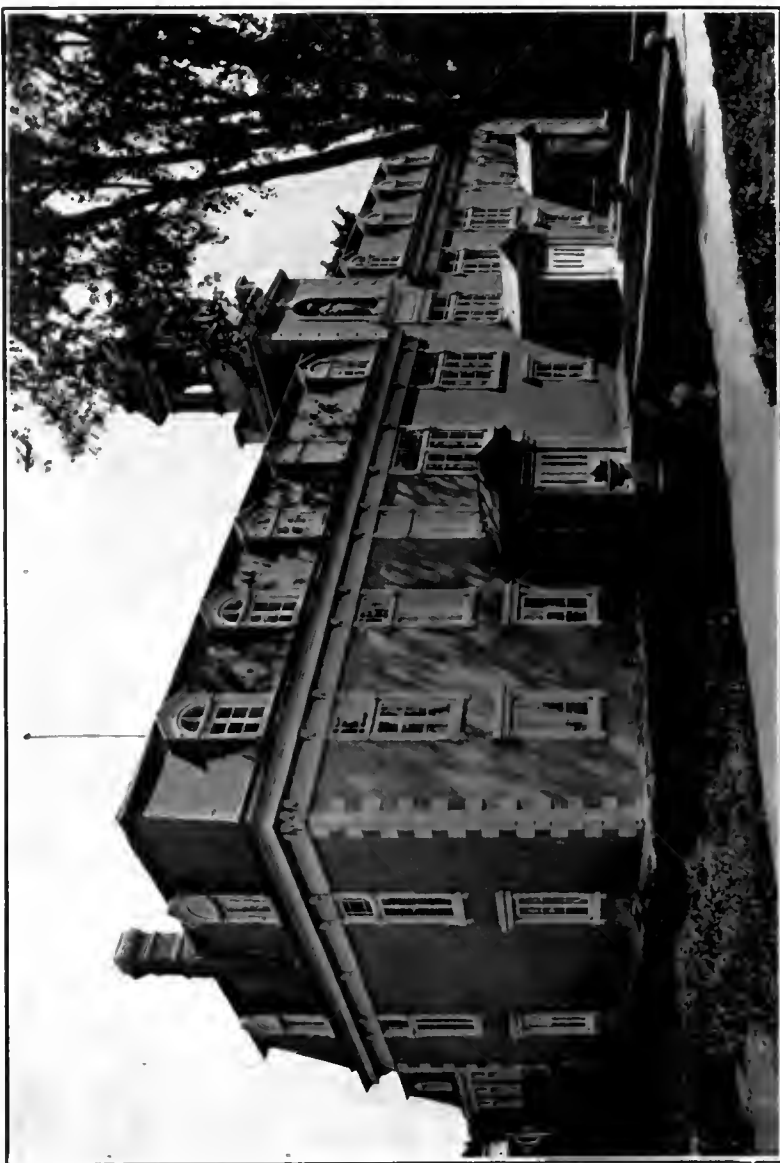
To-day the Lozeau manor house is known as Saint Joseph's Residence, and is the dwelling of the chaplain of the mother house of the Sisters of l'Assomption. The house has undergone alterations, the roof having been changed and one wing added <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> See *l'Histoire de Nicolet*, by the late Abbé J. E. Bellemarre, for information as to Seigneur Lozeau and his purchases of seigneuries.



THE LOZEAU MANOR HOUSE, NICOLET



THE HOUSE OF ABBÉ BRASSARD, NICOLET

Dating from 1784, this house was the cradle of Nicolet College. It was enlarged in 1815, and used as a college until 1831. The Christian Brothers now conduct here a Commercial Academy.



THE MORAS-BEAUBIEN HOUSE, NICOLET

This house is about three-quarters of a century old, having been built by Mr. Moras-Beaubien, son of Jean Paul Beaubien, seigneur of the manor of Moras Island. Mr. Beaubien was lawyer, mayor of Nicolet, and warden from 1864 to 1867.



THE CHANDLER HOUSE, NICOLET

This house was built in 1821. Following his purchase of the seignury of Nicolet, Captain Kenelm Chandler lived on the estate and died here in 1850. The Gray Nuns of Nicolet now use it as a farm house.



THE PROULX HOUSE, NICOLET

Louis Proulx, captain of militia, constructed this residence in 1792. The property passed successively to Hubert Proulx, Yves Proulx, then to Eugene and Fortunat Proulx, sons of Yves Proulx. The sole proprietor now is Fortunat Proulx, former mayor of Nicolet.



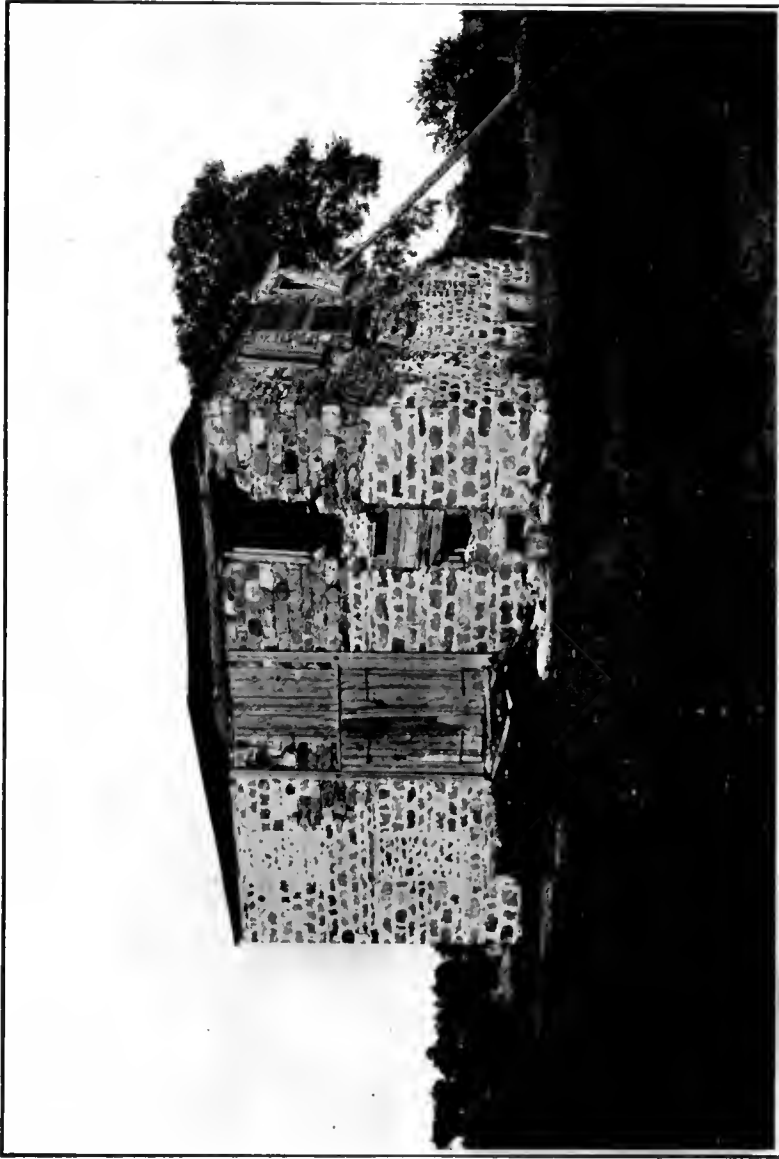
THE CRESSÉ, OR TRIGGE MANOR HOUSE, NICOLET

Shortly after the conquest, this house was built by Seigneur Louis Pierre Cressé, or his widow. Later, Seigneurs H. W. and Alfred Trigge occupied it. Now the owners are the Gray Nuns of the Hôtel Dieu de Nicolet, who lodge their employees there.



THE GOVERNORS' CHÂTEAU, SOREL

The Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria, lived here during the summers from 1791 to 1794; the house is mentioned several times by Madame de Riedesel in her memoirs. Later changes in the château can scarcely be termed prepossessing.



RUINS OF THE CHÂTEAU DE ROTTERMUND, SAINT CÉSAIRE DE ROUVILLE

The château was built seventy-five years ago by the Count de Rotterdam, a Pole by birth, who lived here with his wife, *née* Marie Cordélie Debartzch, from 1850 to 1859. The Count died in Switzerland in 1859, and the château was sold in 1864.

## THE SAINT OURS MANOR HOUSE, SAINT OURS

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THE first manor house of Saint Ours was erected along the River St. Lawrence. In 1792, seigneur Charles de Saint Ours, wishing to be nearer the parish church, selected a superb site on the banks of the Richelieu river and there built a new manor house. That is the building which, ever since, has been the home of the seigneurs of Saint Ours.

In 1870, Madame Roch de Saint Ours, *née* Hermine Juchereau-Duchesnay, restored the building and made of it one of the finest manor houses in the country. One storey was added to the ancient building, but the walls, three feet thick, were preserved.

The Abbé Couillard Després gives a faithful description of the manor house of Saint Ours in his *Histoire de la famille et de la seigneurie de Saint-Ours*.

"It is a large building, some seventy feet long by thirty-five feet deep, with three-foot walls of field stone. A fine gallery encircles the building, which is of two stories, with a mansard roof. On entering the manor house, the size of the rooms is most striking. A wide hall runs through the building. To the right is the large salon. *En passant*, the eye is caught by a very old grandfather clock, which has brass movements. Antique furniture graces the salon; Louis XV arm chairs, gilt-framed mirrors in the style of Louis XIV, on the walls portraits of members of the Saint Ours family, including Charles de Saint Ours, François Roch, Charles Quinson and others related to the family.

"On the tables and on mantelpieces are alabaster vases, works of art of great worth, antique candelabra, and trinkets that would charm the antiquary. Each of these objects has a history. Medals, diamonds and other precious stones are there, enshrined in their cases. The last châtelaine, madame Dorion, was always delighted to show these treasures to those who requested the privilege. Among the objects was a goblet bearing the crest of Montcalm.

"The great salon gives on to a smaller room, which



THE SAINT OURS MANOR, SAINT OURS

formerly housed a library of rare books; the books were distributed among the heirs on the death of Mlle Hermine de Saint Ours.

“In the dining room still are relics of other years; knives, forks, silver spoons, bought in the time of Charles de Saint Ours, or even earlier” (1).

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(1) *Histoire de la famille et de la seigneurie de Saint-Ours*, vol. 11, p. 424.



THE DORION HOUSE, SAINT OURS SUR RICHELIEU

This house, located at the corner of Immaculate Conception and St. Francois Xavier Streets, Saint Ours, was, in 1837, the home of Dr. Jacques Dorion, who had settled in the town in 1824. The doctor was arrested in December, 1837, as a rebel and his house was pillaged.



THE CHERRIER HOUSE, SAINT DENIS SUR RICHELIEU

Built in 1805 by Grand Vicar Cherrier as a presbytery, this building lodged troops in 1837. The present owner is Mgr. L. A. Senécal, parish priest of Saint Denis.



THE MASSE HOUSE, SAINT DENIS SUR RICHELIEU

The building was erected in 1828 by J. B. Masse for his store and his residence; later it became a hotel and then a factory. English soldiers billeted here from December 3 to 8, 1837, and pillaged the Masse store.



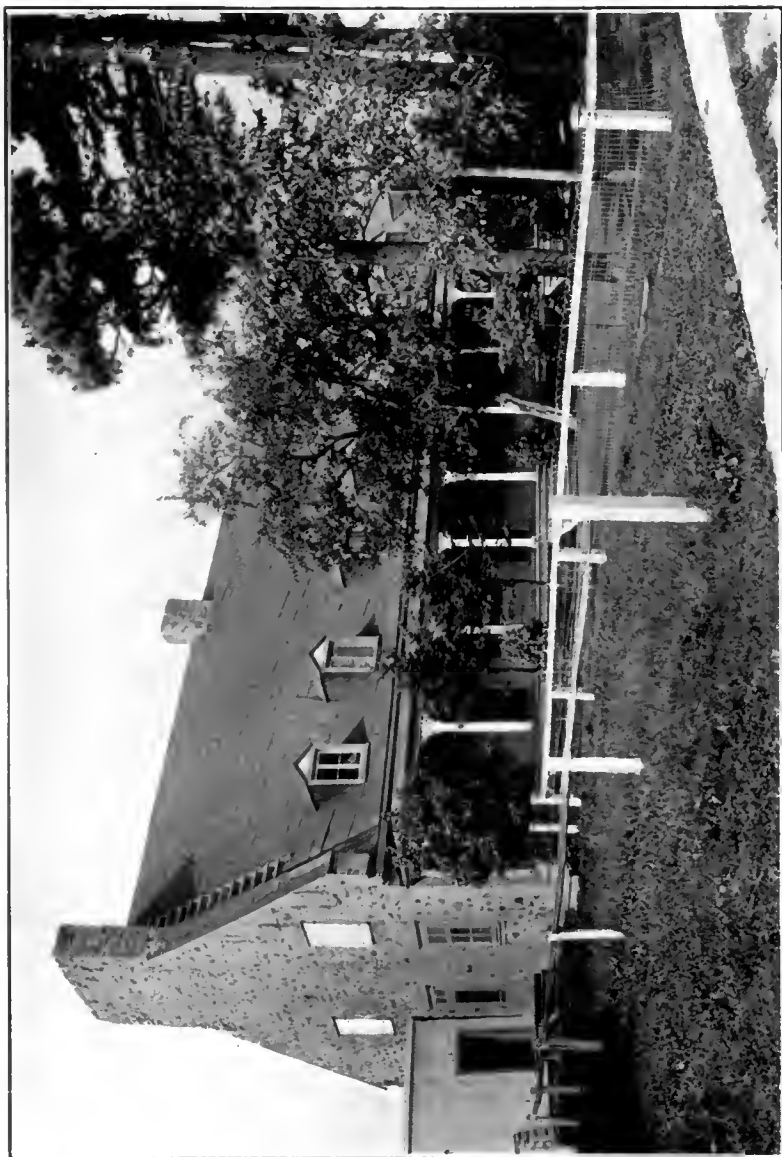
THE BOURDAGES HOUSE, SAINT DENIS SUR RICHELIEU

At one time the home of the famous leader, Louis Bourdages, this house dates from the end of the French régime. Bourdages resided at Saint Denis from 1790 to 1835; his son, David, who was a surveyor, succeeded him as tenant of the building. David Bourdages took part in the battle of Saint Denis, November 23, 1837.



THE DUVERT HOUSE, SAINT CHARLES DE RICHELIEU

The home of the patriot, F. C. Duvert. In the grounds, on October 23, 1837, was held the Council of the Six Counties, at which one of the central figures was the noted leader Louis Joseph Papineau, who was "dressed in homespun." Since 1837, the owners of the house have been: Mr. Masson, Mr. Bruno Guyon, the Abbé Crevier, and Mr. Arthur Remy, the present proprietor.



THE HOUSE OF JOSEPH CARTIER, SAINT ANTOINE SUR RICHELIEU

This residence was the home of Joseph Cartier, uncle of Sir Georges Etienne Cartier, and was constructed between 1779 and 1782; Mr. Joseph Gaudet is now the owner. The building closely resembles the house occupied by Jacques Cartier, father of the great statesman, which was razed in 1906.



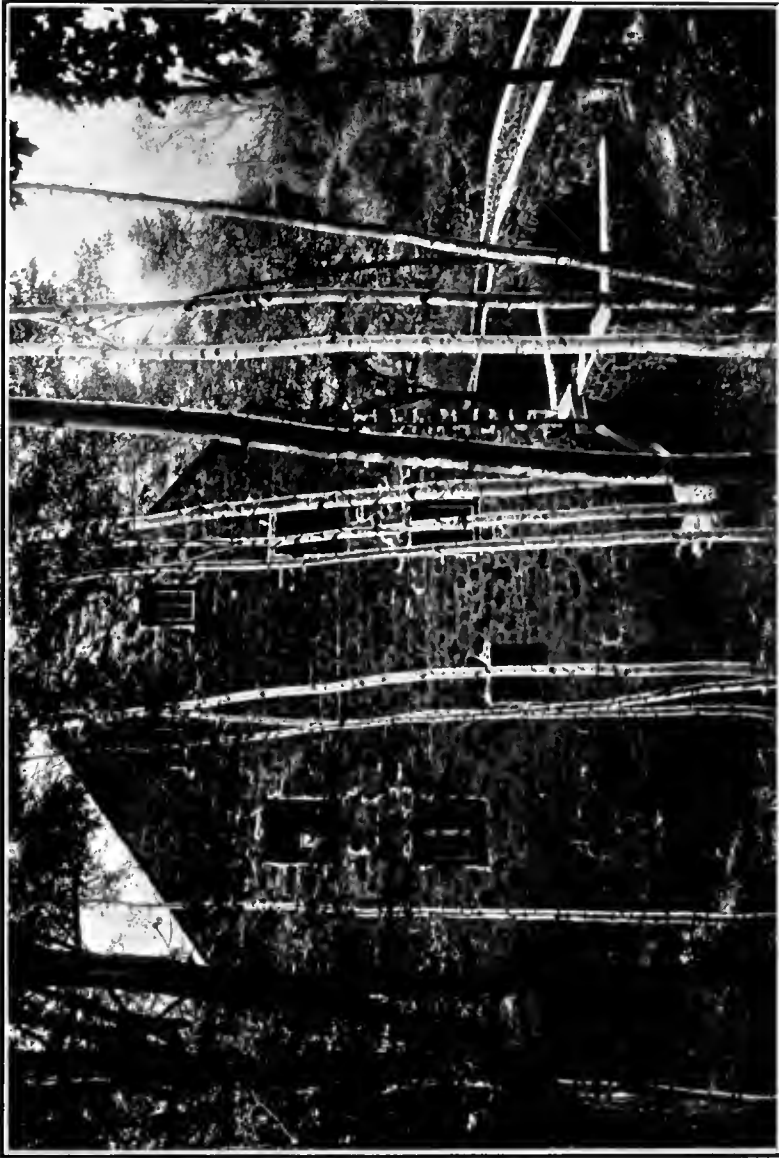
THE MANOR HOUSE OF THE BARONS JOHNSON, SAINT MATHIAS DE ROUVILLE

The manor house is thought to have been built prior to 1830 by Sir John Johnson, son of Sir William Johnson, who commanded the allied Indians in the forces of Amherst. It was successively owned by Sir Adam Gordon Johnson, Sir William George Johnson, the Count de Bouthillier Chavigny, the Sainte Marie de Monnoir College, and lastly by the lawyer, Laurence de K. Stephens, who fell in the Great War. His widow now lives here.



THE FRANCHÈRE STORE, SAINT MATHIAS DE ROUVILLE

Joseph Timothée and Benjamin Franchère built the premises in 1821, and conducted a flourishing business here. To-day a post office and bank branch are established in the building.



THE MONTARVILLE SEIGNEURIAL MILL, MOUNT SAINT BRUNO

The first building on this site was a wooden mill, built in 1710 by Pierre Boucher, first seigneur of Montarville. In 1741 reconstruction in stone was carried out by René Boucher de la Bruère, seigneur at that time. The entire seigneurie of Montarville was acquired in 1897 by Messrs. Pease, Drummond and Birks, of Montreal, and the old mill was then restored and transformed into a chapel, on the walls of which Mr. Birks has placed seven bronze tablets recounting the history of the old manor.



THE MONTARVILLE SEIGNEURIAL MILL, MOUNT SAINT BRUNO

The front of the building.

## THE DE SALABERRY HOUSE, CHAMBLY

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**C**HARLES Michel de Salaberry, the hero of Châteauguay, on May 14, 1812, at Chambly, married Marie Anne Julie, daughter of Jean Baptiste Melchior Hertel de Rouville, seigneur of Rouville, Chambly, Saint Olivier and elsewhere, and of Marie Anne Hervieux. Two years after his immortal triumph at Châteauguay, Lieutenant-Colonel de Salaberry was retired on half-pay.

"He had no opportunity for further distinction", says the Hon. L. O. David. "He had scaled all the grades that England could accord a soldier who was catholic and French-Canadian; even the patronage of the Duke of Kent could not have lifted him higher than a mediocre position. Such a position cannot have suited our compatriot. He gave up military service and henceforth devoted himself to his family, busying himself with the direction of the seigneurie which Mlle Hertel de Rouville had brought him in dower. He had married this noble lady some months before the battle of Châteauguay. A rare match, on which the Duke of Kent congratulated him.

"He took up residence at Chambly, amid the people who had known his valour and his glory during the war. Along the Chambly river, then known as the granary of lower Canada, lived families outstanding both by their origin and their talents, who strove for supremacy in fine manners, liberality and fidelity to the traditions of the past. Life there was gay; the winter was one long succession of parties, outings, and traditional feastings. All fought to do most and best.

"They left in the morning, dined with the seigneur Jacob, picked up friends on the way, and passed the evening with Mr. Cartier at Saint Antoine, or at the homes of Messrs. Drolet, Franchère, and others. What chatter! What gaiety! Leavetaking came regretfully, with promises of meeting again soon.

"There was great joy when the brave colonel turned up, for he was not the least noisy, and when his turn came to sing or take part in a lively cotillon, or a favorite reel, he was no



THE DE SALABERRY HOUSE, CHAMBLY

laggard. Everyone admired him for his exploits and loved him for his cheeriness and affability" (1).

It was in the midst of one of these family reunions, at the home of Mr. Hatt, that the Canadian Leonidas was struck with apoplexy, on February 26, 1829. Taken to his home immediately, he died on the morrow.

The de Salaberry house is now the property of the widowed Madame Châteauguay de Salaberry, *née* Berthe Prévost.

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(1) *The Hero of Châteauguay*, p. 28.



1870

1871

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THE OLD MILITARY HOSPITAL, CHAMBLY CANTON

The building dates from 1812; it was first used as a soldiers' hospital. To-day it belongs to the widowed Madame de Salaberry (*née* Prévost), who has divided it into dwellings.



THE AUDET HOUSE, CONTRECOEUR

This house, built of field boulders deep-sunk in mortar, is a century and a half old, having been constructed by Augustin Audet. Not a single nail was utilized in the interior construction or roof. The pieces in the framework were dovetailed; the auxiliary pieces were assembled by means of wooden pegs. Mr. Gordien Bouvier is the present owner.



LE NOBLET-DUPLESSIS HOUSE, CONTRECOEUR

Built in 1794, the house was occupied from 1811 to 1840 by M. le Noblet-Duplessis, a notary. In 1837 the patriot chiefs met here on several occasions. To-day the house is owned by another notary, Mr. Jean Marie Richard, member for Verchères in the Legislative Assembly.



THE BARIL HOUSE, BOUCHERVILLE

One of the oldest houses in Boucherville. It is the property of the estate of Dr. Georges Edmond Baril.



THE COTTAGE (LA CHAUMIÈRE), BOUCHERVILLE

This house was one of the out-buildings attached to the home built in 1760 by the Honourable Pierre Boucher de Boucherville. It is now owned by the widowed Madame Adolphe Robillard.

VILLA DE LA BROQUERIE, FORMERLY PIERRE  
BOUCHER'S MANOR HOUSE, BOUCHERVILLE

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**I**T was in 1668, or a little before, that Pierre Boucher withdrew from the positions of honour and confidence accorded on him by the governors of New France, to establish his seigneurie of Percée Island, or Boucherville.

Here are his own reasons for founding his Boucherville establishment.

“To have a foothold in this land consecrated to God, where worthy people might live in peace, and the inhabitants ever proclaim their fealty to God. Thus the erring who will not change their ways need not come to dwell here, or must expect to be speedily expelled.

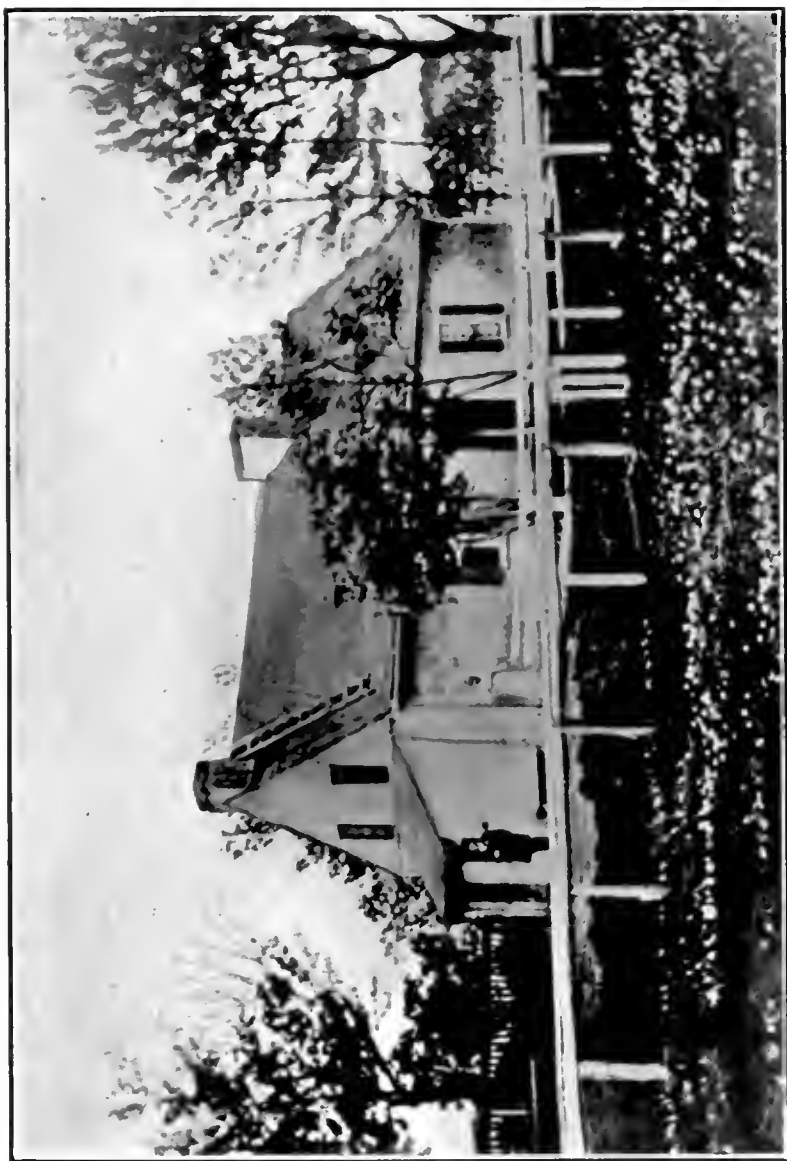
“To live more remotely, freed from the bustle of the world, which only serves to make us slight God and turn toward the petty; and also to apply myself more easily to my salvation and that of my family.

“To endeavour to amass, by the most legitimate means, something for the subsistence of my family, to instruct my children in virtue, civil life, and those sciences necessary for the state to which God may call them, and provide for each of them in his own sphere.”

Pierre Boucher built his manor house at the mouth of the little river Sabrevois, some thirty acres distant from the present Boucherville church. He surrounded it with palisades and fortified it in various ways, for, at that time, the Iroquois were the terror of the region.

About 1695, Boucher gave up this house to his daughter Jeanne, married to M. de Sabrevois. The residence, until then known as Fort Saint Louis, henceforth bore the high-sounding title of Château Sabrevois.

Four generations of the Sabrevois family followed in the house built by Pierre Boucher. The “Château” passed then to François Piedmont de la Bruère, then to Joseph Antoine Boucher de la Broquerie, and, lastly, to Charles Taché, who married Louise Henriette Boucher de la Broquerie. Their son, Bishop A. A. Taché, who inherited the ancestral home,



THE MANOR HOUSE OF PIERRE BOUCHER, BOUCHERVILLE

The manor house of Pierre Boucher, Boucherville, as it was in 1868, exactly two centuries after its construction.

gave it to the Jesuits, who, after having enlarged it, made of it the renowned place for "closed retreats" known as Villa de la Broquerie.

In 1890, Father Lalande wrote:

"Villa de la Broquerie is the name the Reverend Jesuit Fathers have given it. Through the generosity of Bishop Taché, they have been proprietors of it for the past four years; and they have wished that the gift should preserve the name dearest to the benefactor. For a century—and these are the words of the Bishop of Saint Boniface—this manor house has borne the name of Château Sabrevois; in no wise because its magnificence entitled it to the pompous title of château, but because it was the custom for the seigneurs and noble French families so to name their residences. In giving it this name, the noble M. Sabrevois de Bleury was only faithful to custom.

"Of the château, it has neither the architecture, the rich decoration, nor the proud appearance. There are no keeps, no battlements, no balconies, no porticoes. Art did nothing to embellish this residence. Powerless to successfully rival Nature, it has left to Nature all the responsibility. And Nature has shouldered that with charm and, in the open season, has made of this a spot extremely pleasing.

"Built on a slope, twenty paces from the strand, the villa site embraces the grand and the picturesque. On one side the fields, the sweet-scented prairies, on the horizon, heights of different stature. At the foot of the villa runs the Sabrevois River, between two curtains of thicket. Opposite, the river, its isles, the north shores, where the eye flits from scene to scene up to the Laurentians themselves. Blue or clouds in a vast sky, blue or clouds in the ripples of the Saint Lawrence; immense mirror of an incomparable tableau" (1).

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(1) *Boucherville, An Old Seigneurie*, p. 316.



VILLA DE LA BROQUERIE

Formerly the manor house of Pierre Boucher, Boucherville.



THE OLD HOUSE OF THE HONOURABLE PIERRE DE BOUCHERVILLE, BOUCHERVILLE

The front of the house bears the date 1760. It belonged to the Honourable Pierre de Boucherville, then to Sir Charles de Boucherville, who exchanged it with Mr. de Léry for the property now occupied by Mr. Joseph de Boucherville, K.C. The residence ceded to Mr. de Léry was bought some years ago by Messrs. J. J. Beauchamp and Charles Bruchési, both lawyers.



THE MARSIL HOUSE, SAINT LAMBERT DE CHAMBLY

Reputedly the oldest house in Saint Lambert, the building dates back to the end of the 17th century and has been the home of seven successive generations in the Marsil family. André Marsil dit l'Espagnol was one of the first settlers in the locality. The present proprietor is Mr. Albert Mercil. Descendants of André Marsil sign themselves Mercil, Marsil, Mercil and Mercille.



THE BROSSARD HOUSE, LAPRAIRIE

One of the oldest and finest typical houses of Laprairie. It is the property of Mr. Hector Brossard. He inherited it from his father, Louis Brossard, who bought it from Magloire Boyer around 1860. The building came to Mr. Boyer from Louison Roy, descendant of Pierre Roy, one of the first settlers of Laprairie.



THE LONGTIN HOUSE, LAPRAIRIE

Built between 1790 and 1800, this is the oldest house in the village of Laprairie. The Nolin family, connected with that of the lawyer, Mr. Bisailon, occupied the building around 1850. For some years it has belonged to Mr. Longtin.



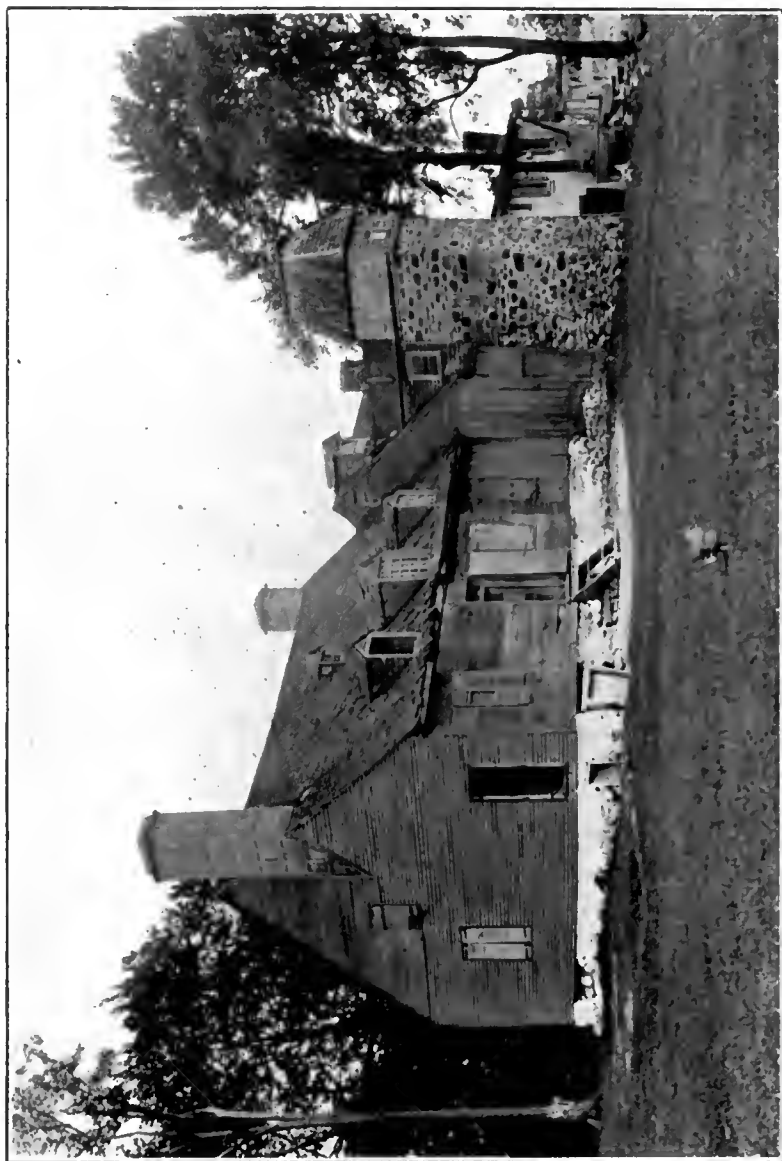
THE CÔTE SAINTE CATHERINE SEIGNEURIAL MILL, LAPRAIRIE

This mill was built in, or perhaps a little before 1718 by the Jesuits, who were seigneurs of Laprairie. It was in operation up to 1890, but since then the wheels have disappeared; on the river side the walls have fallen, and on the road side the main building has been transformed into a small store.



THE MOQUIN HOUSE, LAPRAIRIE

Built in 1807, this house is in an excellent state of preservation. Sixty years ago it was the scene of a frightful tragedy. A bandit murdered a servant girl and a small child, in order to steal valuables belonging to the masters of the house who were absent.



THE PINSONNAULT HOUSE, SAINT MATHIEU DE LAPRAIRIE

Paul Théophile Pinsonnault, notary and colonel of militia, built this house early in the 19th century. Mgr. Pinsonnault, first bishop of London, was born here on November 23, 1815. The house is in lamentable condition.



THE SANGUINET HOUSE, SAINT MATHIEU DE LAPRAIRIE

The patriot, Charles Sanguinet, who was executed at the same time as his brother, Ambroise, on January 18, 1838, lived here. The present proprietor is Mr. Olier Dupuis, mayor of Saint Mathieu.



THE PRESBYTERY, CAUGHNAWAGA

Reverend Father Devine, in his *Historic Caughnawaga*, places construction of the residence of the missionaries of the Sault Saint Louis, or Caughnawaga reservation, between 1716 and 1721. The house is in excellent condition.

## THE HOUSE OF THE GRAY NUNS, SAINT BERNARD OR GRAY NUNS' ISLAND, CHÂTEAUGUAY

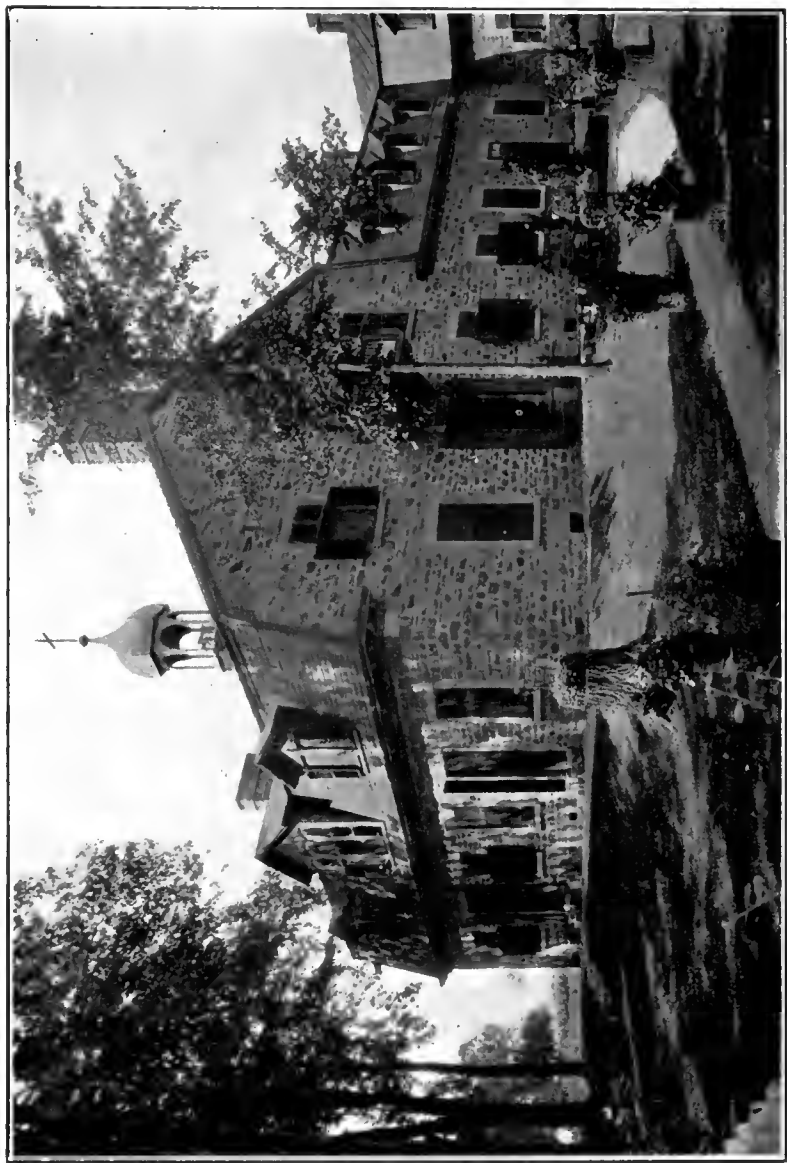
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**S**AINTE BERNARD, or Gray Nuns' Island, lies at the mouth of the Châteauguay river, at one time known as Rivière du Loup (Wolf River). It is triangular in form. The north-west side is bathed by the waters of Lake Saint Louis; the east side by the Châteauguay river; the south side by a river arm ordinarily filled with the waters of the Saint Lawrence, but into which the Châteauguay river spills its surplus waters in spring or after heavy rains. The Saint Bernard Island has an area of six hundred and ninety feet.

"This island above all is remarkable for the famous knoll known as the Butte des Sœurs (The Nuns' Ridge), which for many years has been surmounted by the sign of redemption. Encircling the foot of this cross is a fine terrace on which the Gray Nuns, owners of the island, may enjoy the pure and refreshing air of Lake Saint Louis, permeated with the scent of the woods, at the same time delighting in the most beautiful panorama the eye could wish.

"Competent authorities have it that the Butte des Sœurs is not the work of Nature alone, but the result of some gigantic labour undertaken ages ago by the race of Mound Builders, who were almost extinct when America was discovered. The nature of the soil in the Butte, the resemblance of this knoll to more than two thousand others similar in appearance, but generally smaller in size, indicate that the eminence is certainly the work of the old Indians, as is proven by bones and utensils discovered in the flanks of the rising ground. The discovery of bones and of utensils, made in 1854 in the Butte des Sœurs, lends considerable strength to the opinion of those who believe that this is a relic of the Mound Builders; whatever be the truth of it, the higher level of the Butte to-day serves the Gray Nuns as a cemetery.

"The island is part of the seigneurie of Châteauguay, granted to Charles Le Moyne, first seigneur of Longueuil, on September 29, 1763. Two of the sons of Charles Le Moyne bore the name of Châteauguay. The first, Louis, born January 4, 1676, heir to the seigneurie, was killed by the English at Fort Nelson, on Hudson's Bay, November 4, 1694.



THE GRAY NUNS' HOUSE, SAINT BERNARD, OR GRAY NUNS' ISLAND, CHÂTEAUGUAY

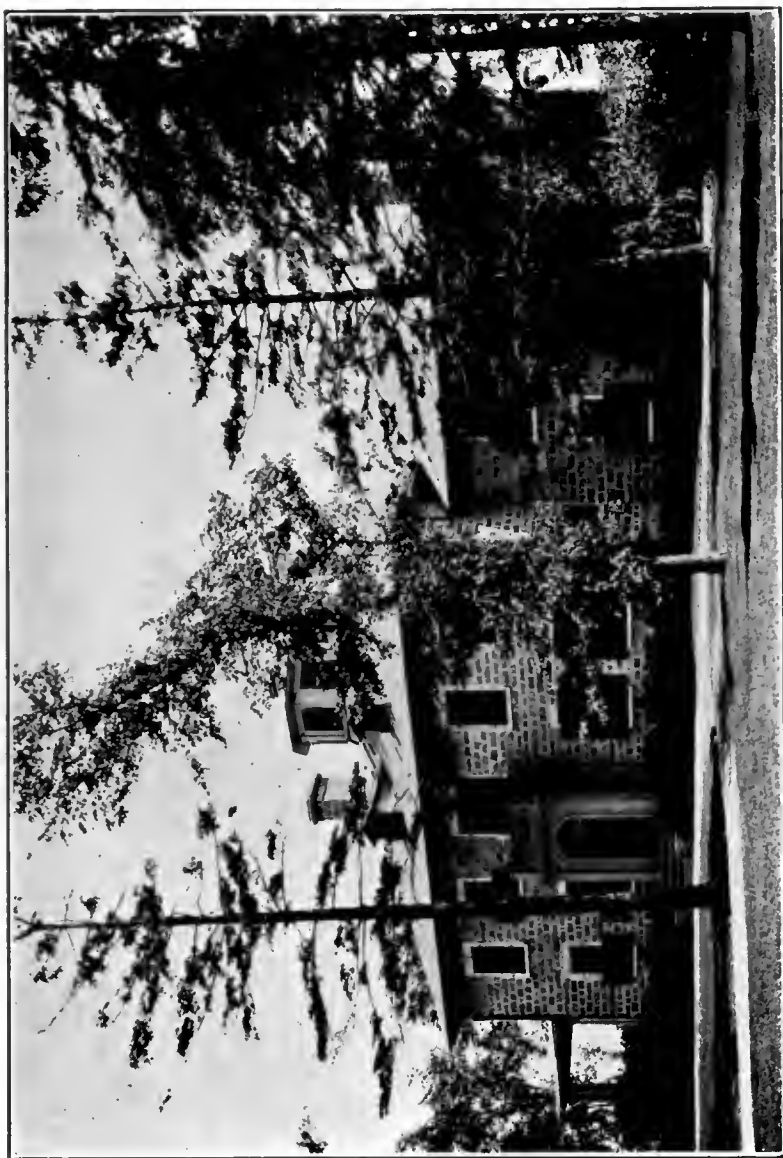
The second, Antoine, born July 7, 1683, the fourteenth and last child of this line of heroes, was successively governor of Martinique, Cayenne, and Ile Royale. He died at Rochefort on March 21, 1747. It can be seen that the small seigneurie was of secondary importance to him. His father Charles, first baron of Longueuil, entrusted with his interests in Canada, sold the seigneurie of Châteauguay on August 6, 1706, to Zacharie Robutel de Lanoue, who had become the first cousin of the Le Moynes through his marriage with Catherine, daughter of Jacques Le Moyne, seigneur of the Cap de la Trinité, and who had lived on Saint Bernard Island since 1699. The seigneurie of Châteauguay passed in heritage to his son, Joachim Robutel de Lanoue, thence into the hands of Marie Anne Robutel de Lanoue, his sister, who sold it to the venerable Mother d'Youville, foundress of the Gray Nuns, on June 8, 1765. Since that date, Saint Bernard Island and, indeed, the whole of the little seigneurie of Châteauguay, has belonged to the Gray Nuns.

“In 1686, Charles Le Moyne had constructed on the island a stone mill in tower form. At the time the Gray Nuns bought the manor, this tower was falling in ruins. They restored it and replaced the roof. In 1865 it was converted into an oratory. Since then a fine statue of Saint Joseph has been placed on the tower, which is one of the oldest monuments in the country. Those with a love for the past are grateful to the Gray Nuns for having preserved this relic.”



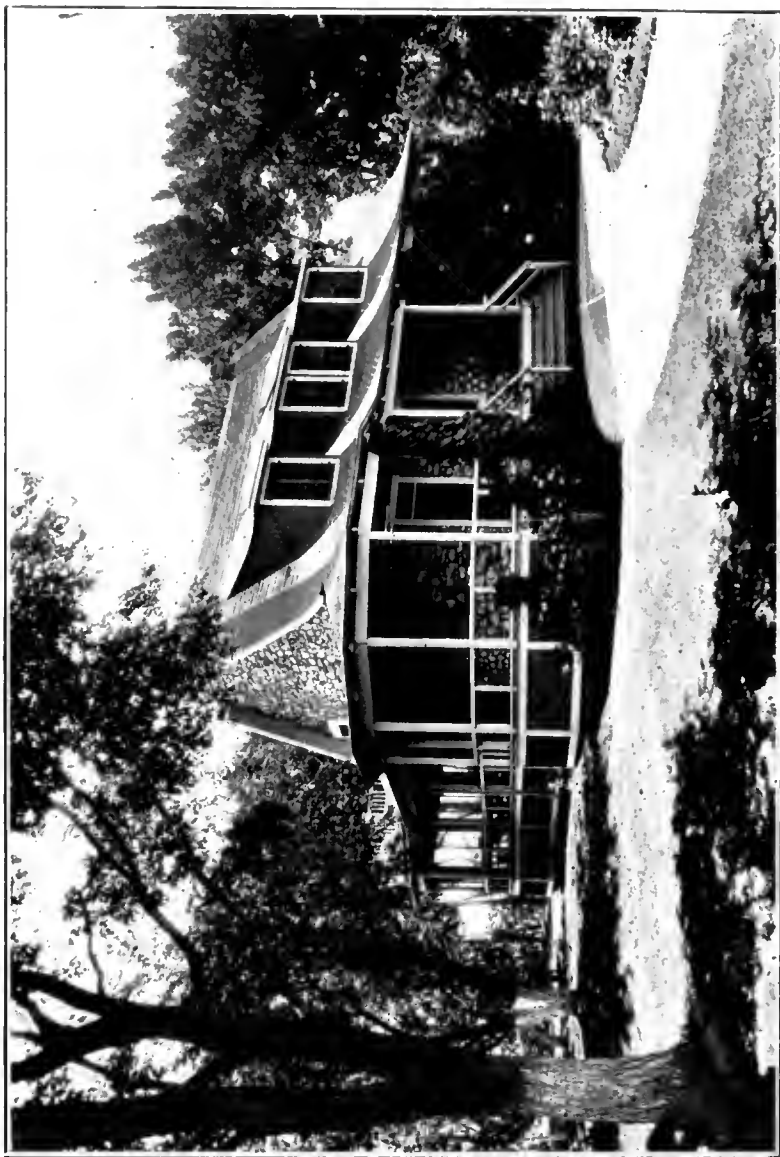
THE OLD PRESBYTERY, ILE PERROT

Abbé Pierre Toupin, parish priest of Ile Perrot from 1797 to 1825, used this house as a presbytery. To-day it is owned by the de Bellefeuille family.



THE DE BEAUJEU MANOR HOUSE, CÔTEAU DU LAC

Sir George Simpson is believed to have built this sumptuous residence. It later became the property of the Count de Beaujeu. In 1903 the manor house passed to A. J. H. Saint Denis, a notary; in 1914 to Lawrence Wilson; finally, in 1918, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. A. Grant, the present proprietor.



THE FORBES HOUSE, VAUDREUIL

Built in 1813 by John and Samuel Forbes, this house was occupied by a Dr. Muir, who married a Miss Forbes. Mr. C. A. Harwood, K.C., acquired it from Mr. Xavier Denis some years ago. Nicely located, surrounded by a charming garden, the residence is highly attractive.



THE HARWOOD HOUSE, VAUDREUIL

The house was built before 1850 by Robert William Harwood, son of Robert Unwin Harwood, who had married Louise Chartier de Lotbinière. Mr. R. W. Harwood, joint-seigneur of Vaudreuil, married Mary Charlotte McGillis, whose father was a lawyer and heir to his uncle Hugh McGillis, one of the partners in the famous North-West Company. The Constant estate now owns the property.



THE CADIEUX HOUSE, VAUDREUIL

One of the oldest farm houses in upper Vaudreuil. Formerly it was owned by the Cadieux family; now it is the property of Mr. Placide Vinet dit Larente.

## THE TRESTLER HOUSE, VAUDREUIL

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**W**ERE all house builders as meticulous as was Mr. Trestler, it would be possible to write their history, just as it is possible to trace the lives of celebrated figures.

This house is 139 feet long by forty feet deep, but it was constructed in different sections, and each time Mr. Trestler, the proprietor, carefully noted the event by an inscription on the wing added to the main building. On the central block can be read: "J.J.T., 1798;" on the left, or west, wing: "Glory to God, J.J.T., 1805;" on the right wing: "1806." Finally, on a stone which was in the wall of another building, now demolished, could be read: "To the Glory of God, Jean Joseph Trestler, born at Manheim, 1757; built 1797, A.M.D.G."

After the death of Mr. Trestler, his house was occupied by his son, Dr. Trestler, professor at the School of Medicine and Surgery, Montreal, by his son-in-law, Sir Antoine Aimé Dorion, by the Honourable C. A. Geoffrion, who married a Miss Dorion, and by others.

The Trestler house now is owned by Mr. Gustave Rainville, banker <sup>(1)</sup>.

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(1) Notes by Mr. E. Z. Massicotte.



THE TRESTLER HOUSE, VAUDREUIL



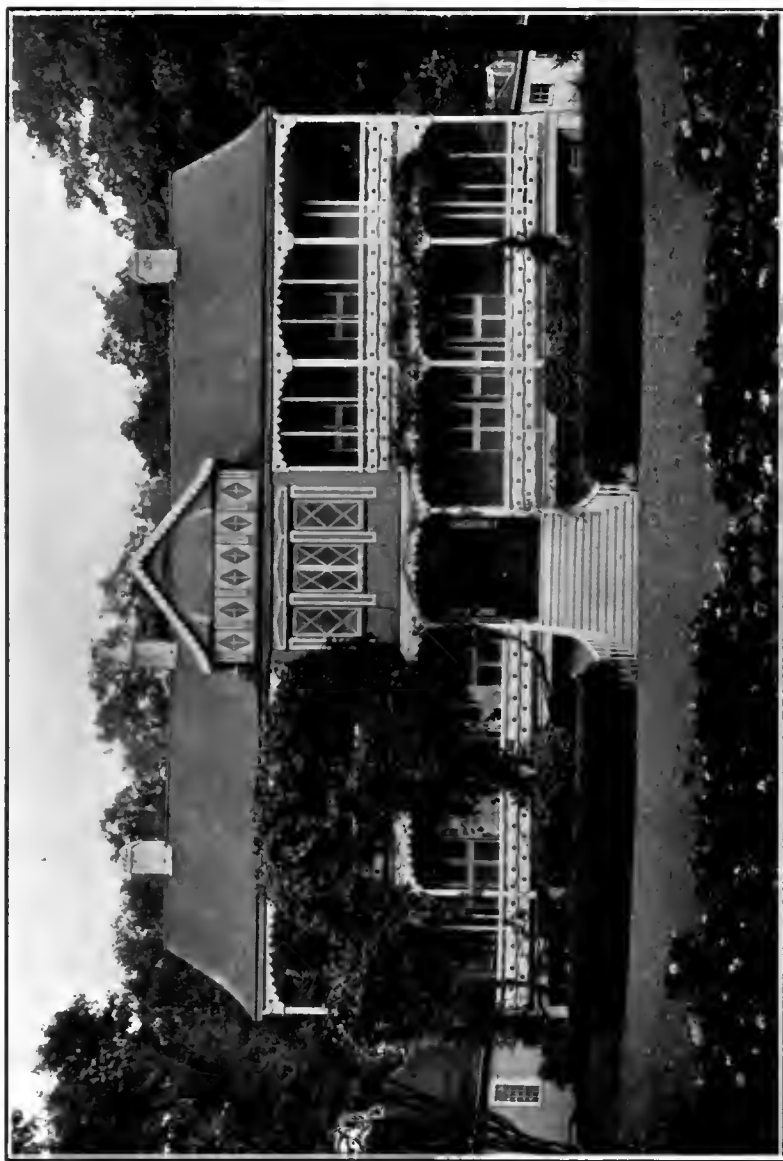
THE VALOIS HOUSE, DORION (VAUDREUIL)

Said to be more than one hundred years old, this frame house is situated at the extreme western end of Dorion. Since 1852 it has been in the hands of the Valois family. Tourists are much attracted by the building, which has been kept in its original state.



THE OLD WINDMILL, DORION (VAUDREUIL)

According to a stone sunk in the mill wall, the building dates from 1778. It is the property of the Parent estate. As it is situated somewhat off the beaten track, only those who are informed of its existence are likely to notice it.



THE LOTBINIÈRE MANOR HOUSE

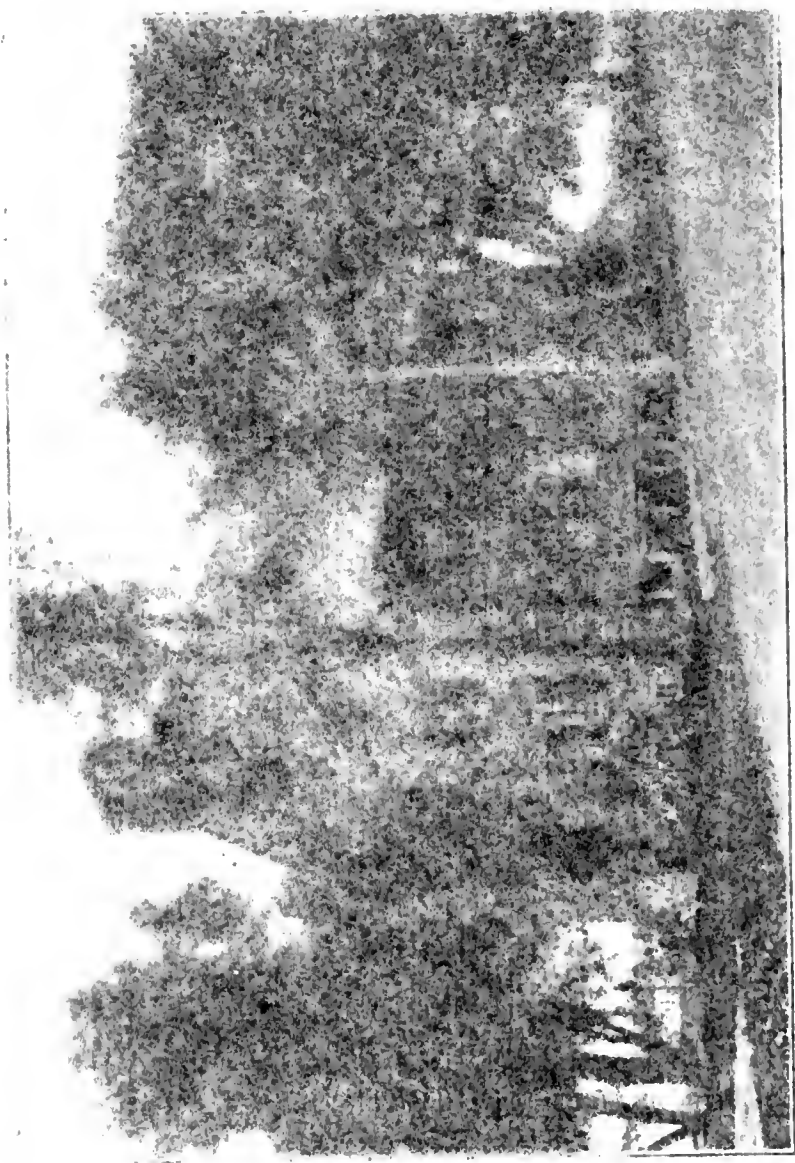
The manor of Lotbinière has always been in possession of the Lotbinière family, then of the Joly de Lotbinière family. The present owner of the seignury and manor house is Mr. Alain Joly Chartier de Lotbinière, grandson of Sir Henri Gustave Joly Chartier de Lotbinière.



THE LANGLOIS HOUSE, LOTBINIÈRE

Ambroise Chavigny de la Chevrotière, notary, built this house in 1817 and lived in it until his death in 1834. Under this roof, Thomas Bedard, a notary, opened a Latin school which had its vogue. Mr. Bruno Langlois is the present owner.





THE LANGLOIS HOUSE, LOUISIANA

Ambroise Chavigny de la Chevrotière, notary, built this house de bois, and lived in it in 1834. Under this roof, Thomas Bedard, a notary, opened a law school after he had the Langlois is the present owner.

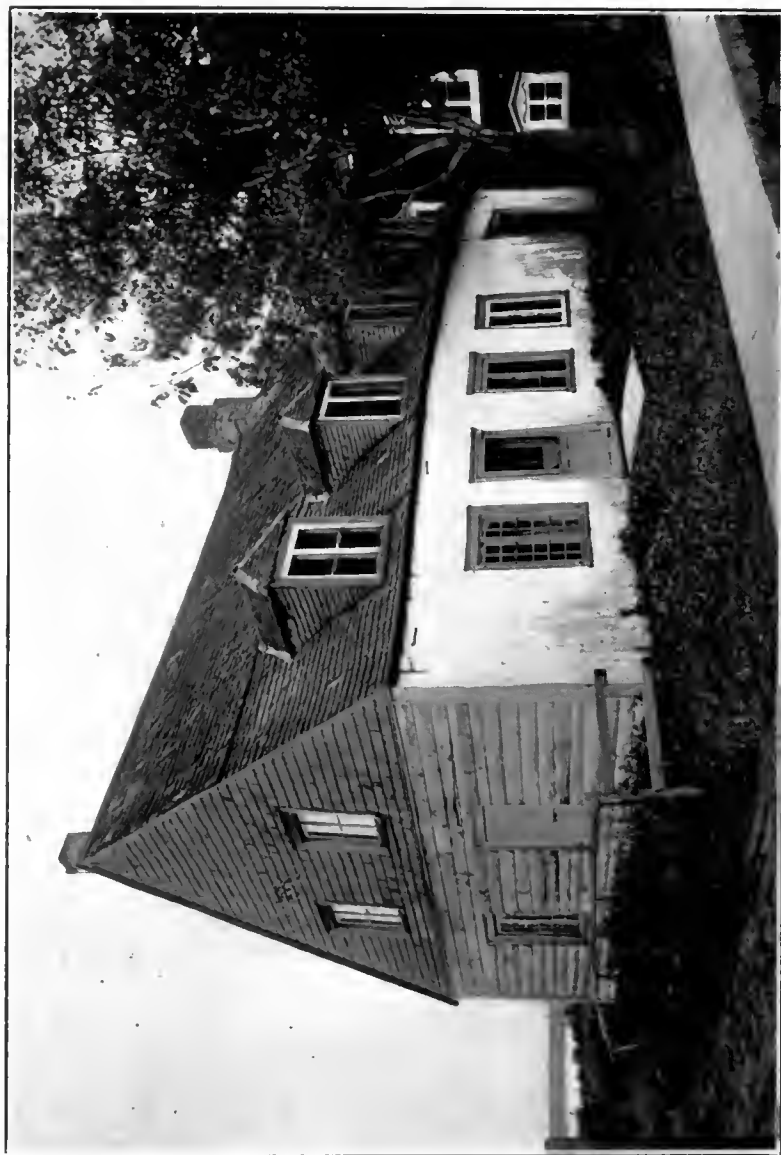






THE ADOLPHE LEGENDRE HOUSE, SAINTE CROIX

Built around 1790 by Jean Baptiste Legendre, grandson of another Jean Baptiste Legendre who was the first of the family to come to Canada, this house is of the type formerly most encountered, not only at Sainte Croix but all over this section of the country. The window shutters protected the occupants from the cold, and acted as a foil to burglars.



THE EDOUARD MARTEL HOUSE, SAINTE CROIX

A wooden house, built around 1815 by Edouard Martel, who lived here until his death in 1833. The building housed the first registration office for the County of Lotbinière. Mr. Siméon N. Boisvert is now the proprietor.



THE DIONNE MANOR HOUSE, SAINT ANTOINE DE TILLY

This manor house was erected some seventy-five years ago by Charles François Dionne, Seigneur of Tilly, and grandfather of the present seigneur, Mr. Philémon Dionne.

## THE OLD MANOR HOUSE, SAINT ANTOINE DE TILLY

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SEVERAL of the scenes in William Kirby's romance, *The Golden Dog*, are laid in Saint Antoine de Tilly, and the author has given this charming description of the setting of the manor house:

"A broad, smooth carriage road led up to the mansion across a park dotted with clumps of evergreens and deciduous trees. Here and there an ancient patriarch of the forest stood alone, some old oak or elm, whose goodly proportions and amplitude of shade had found favour in the eyes of the seigneurs of Tilly, and saved it from the axe of the woodman.

"A pretty brook, not too wide to be crossed over by a rustic bridge, meandered through the domain, peeping occasionally out of the openings in the woods as it stole away like a bashful girl from the eyes of her admirer.

. . . . .

"Behind the mansion, overlooking poultry-yards and stables which were hidden from view, rose a high *colombière*, or pigeon-house, of stone, the possession of which was one of the rights which feudal law reserved to the lord of the manor. This *colombière* was capable of containing a large army of pigeons, but the regard which the Lady de Tilly had for the cornfields of her *censitaires* caused her to thin out its population to such a degree that there remained only a few favourite birds of rare breed and plumage, to strut and coo upon the roofs and rival the peacocks on the terrace with their bright colours.

"In front of the mansion, contrasting oddly with the living trees around it, stood a high pole, the long straight stem of a pine tree, carefully stripped of its bark, bearing on its top the withered remains of a bunch of evergreens, with the fragments of a flag and ends of ribbon which fluttered gayly from it. The pole was marked with black spots from the discharge of guns fired at it by the joyous *habitants*, who had kept the ancient custom of May-day by planting this Maypole in front of the Manor House of their Lady.

. . . . .



THE OLD MANOR HOUSE, SAINT ANTOINE DE TILLY

"The interior of the Manor House of Tilly presented the appearance of an old French château. A large hall with antique furniture occupied the centre of the house, used occasionally as a court of justice, when the Seigneur de Tilly exercised his judicial office for the trial of offenders, which was very rarely, thanks to the good morals of the people, or held a *cour plénière* of his vassals, on affairs of the seigniorly for apportioning the *corvées* for road-making and bridge-building, and not the least important by any means for the annual feast to his *censitaires*, on the day of St. Michael de Thury.

"From this hall, passages led into apartments and suites of rooms arranged for use, comfort and hospitality. The rooms were of all sizes, panelled, tapestried and furnished in a style of splendour suited to the wealth and dignity of the Seigneurs of Tilly. A stair of oak, broad enough for a section of grenadiers to march up it abreast, led to the upper chambers, bedrooms and boudoirs, which looked out of old mullioned windows upon the lawn and gardens that surrounded the house, affording picturesque glimpses of water, hills and forests far enough off for contemplation and yet near enough to be accessible by a short ride from the mansion" <sup>(1)</sup>.

Was this description of the de Tilly manor house true to life? Kirby has spoken of the old-time Canadian life with such sympathy that, really, it would be ungenerous to quarrel with him on small details, perhaps erroneous, but which, in sum, do not certainly mar the charming pictures of the French régime which he has painted.

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<sup>(1)</sup> *The Golden Dog*, Kirby, p. 263.

## THE PAQUET HOUSE, SAINT NICOLAS

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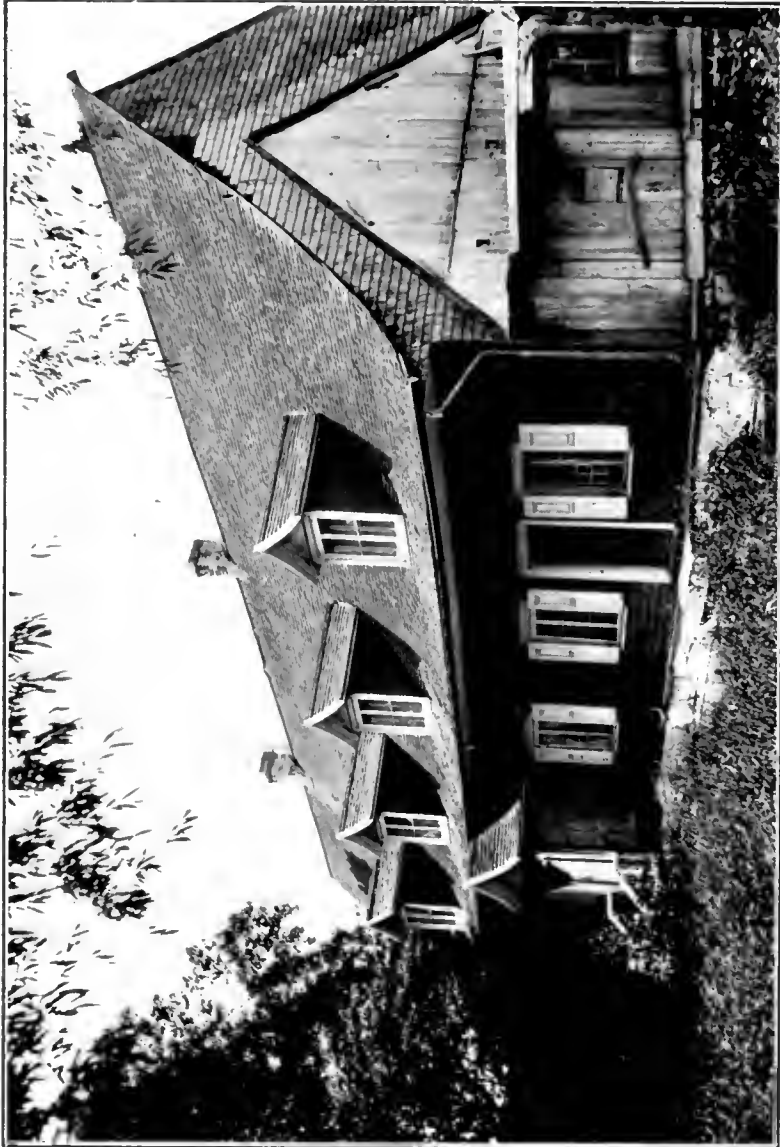
CONSTRUCTED in two parts, the Paquet house dates from the French régime, and is one of the oldest and most interesting residences of the ancient seigneurie of Lauzon.

During the winter of 1775-1776, a large detachment from Arnold's army, then stationed before Quebec, was sent to Saint Nicolas to secure provisions. The American soldiers established themselves in the Paquet house, which from its size seemed more like a manor house, and passed several weeks there. The tradition—very clear and very distinct—is retained in the Paquet family that during their stay at Saint Nicolas the soldiers were struck by epidemic and that three or four of the Americans died. Their burial places, even, are indicated across the King's Highway at about the spot where to-day stands the chapel of Notre Dame de Grâces.

The late Mr. Alfred Cloutier gives this description of the Paquet house:

"The old manor house is as solid and as clean inside, and offers as much comfort as in the days, sixty years ago, when we saw it for the first time, when Mr. Benjamin Paquet sold his goods there. We say 'manor house,' because the people of the region for many years have been used to that description of this pretty residence, farm and manor house at the same time, which reveals in its builder a pronounced taste for all that contributes to the joys of home life, and all the comforts possible that a citizen at ease could give to himself in that already remote period.

"The main section of the building is more than 90 feet long. The rooms are wide and spacious, but the ceiling is somewhat low, following the mode of the time, and probably also so that too much heat would not be lost in winter. The roof is gabled, and the many small rooms it holds are designed for the numerous *personnel* of the house and for those working on the farm. The long table, at which everybody gathers for meals, recalls the great days of patriarchal customs, when masters and servants, recognizing that they were equal before the Sovereign Lord, broke bread and drank wine,



THE PAQUET HOUSE, SAINT NICOLAS

all the while rendering thanks to Him who, in His munificent goodness, accorded them all the same gifts.

"The master of the house, Mr. Benjamin Paquet, sat at the head of the table, then, to his right, Mr. Etienne Théodore, then the servants without distinction. The most infectious gaiety reigned inevitably at these family feasts. Each one had his little grain of salt and his witty words which seasoned the conversation and lent spice to the banter of the younger ones. Appetites were robust. But the work was on a par. If eating was good, work also was heavy. At that table (known by all the people of the parish through their having sat at it, on the invitation of the master, when the bell rang and purchases in the store were not completed) was served good, household rye bread, oven-baked after it had been kneaded by expert hands.

"For my part, when I passed my holidays with my beloved companion Théodore, who later became the Honourable Etienne Théodore Paquet, I preferred it to baker's bread. And the soup whose aroma welled over the doorstep. We remember with great pleasure all these souvenirs of other years; the rustic scenes; the big trees in front of the manor house, of which some still exist; the two cannon which we fired with great gusto on fête days; the gravel-strewn walks; the carefully raked flower garden, and the rare flowers, the pride of madame Paquet, and of which she made buttonholes for us when we left.

"Of all that group, working, buzzing like a hive of bees, full of gaiety, of hopeful plans, not a single one remains. All have disappeared, one after the other. There only rests a cherished remembrance of them, and the things that they loved. *Sunt lacrymae rerum.*"

## THE CANTIN HOUSE, SAINT ROMUALD D'ETCHEMIN

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**N**ICOLAS Cantin, a Norman by birth, was the first Cantin to settle in New France. He took up land at L'Ange Gardien. On August 3, 1660, he married Madeleine Roulois at Quebec. One of his six children, Louis Cantin, married Marie Mathieu at L'Ange Gardien on January 17, 1701, and fifteen children were the issue.

One of the sons, named after his father, established himself in the seigneurie of Lauzon shortly before 1740. The children of that Louis Cantin possess the distinction of having headed the numerous Cantin families spread over the seigneurie of Lauzon and round about it.

Francois Cantin, son of Louis Cantin, who was born on March 10, 1759, went to Etchemin. His son, still another Louis, had four daughters who shared their father's property at Etchemin; they were Camille, married to Jérémie Demers, Adelaïde, married to Jean Samson, Marie, married to Augustin Gingras, and Ursule, married to her cousin, Narcisse Cantin.

The last named had a property of his own east of the Etchemin river, but after marrying Ursule Cantin he took up residence in the house "at the water's edge" which his wife had received from her father. That is the house of which a photograph is reproduced. This house, almost 150 years old, with walls nearly three feet thick, is as solid as at the time it was built.

Narcisse Cantin left the house to his son, the late Pierre Cantin, a lawyer. Mr. Allan Laurie is the present occupant.



THE CANTIN HOUSE, SAINT ROMUALD D'ETCHEMIN

THE HOUSE OF THE HONOURABLE JEAN THOMAS  
TASCHEREAU, SAINTE MARIE DE LA  
BEAUCE

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**T**HIS house was constructed shortly before 1812 by Jean Thomas Taschereau, a lawyer, who was first deputy for Dorchester, later for Gaspé. Appointed judge of the Court of King's Bench for the district of Quebec on March 29, 1827, the Hon. Mr. Taschereau died at Quebec on June 14, 1832.

By his marriage with Marie Panet, daughter of the Hon. Jean Antoine Panet, first Speaker of the Assembly, Mr. Justice Taschereau had several children, among them, Marie Louise Taschereau, who became Lady Routh, Elisabeth Suzanne Taschereau, who married the Hon. Senator Henri Elzéar Juchereau-Duchesnay, Jean Thomas Taschereau, judge of the Supreme Court of Canada and father of the present premier of the Province of Quebec, and Elzéar Alexandre Taschereau, first Canadian cardinal.

Three years before his death, Mr. Justice Taschereau had the honour of receiving Sir James Kempt, administrator of Canada, at Sainte Marie de la Beauce. A newspaper of the time describes thus the trip of Sir James Kempt in the Beauce:

“Having, during the summer of 1829, visited the district of Montreal and the Eastern Townships, he decided to visit the region of Beauce in September. He left Quebec about noon on Sunday, September 13, accompanied by the Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel Gore, deputy quartermaster-general, and by Lieutenant-Colonel Duchesnay, one of his aides de camp. He reached Sainte Marie de la Beauce about half-past four the same day. Local horsemen and the principal inhabitants of the parish escorted him to the home of Mr. Justice Taschereau. There a company of militia, commanded by Captain Reny, accorded him military honours. His Excellency dined and was the guest of the judge for the night. The following morning he remounted, took lunch with the parish priest of Saint Joseph, M. Decoigne, and having inspected the Kennebec road, retraced his path and slept that night at Saint François. On Tuesday, the 15th, on his way back to Quebec, he stopped



THE HOUSE OF THE HONOURABLE JEAN THOMAS TASCHEREAU, SAINTE MARIE DE LA BEAUCE

again at Sainte Marie to visit the military establishment and the Customs office. During the afternoon, he returned to Quebec."

Attached to this house is a prized souvenir. Here His Eminence Cardinal Elzéar Alexandre Taschereau was born on February 18, 1820.

The house, which has always been occupied by the Taschereau family, is now the property of Mr. Louis Georges Taschereau.

## THE TASCHEREAU OR LINDSAY MANOR HOUSE, SAINTE MARIE DE LA BEAUCE

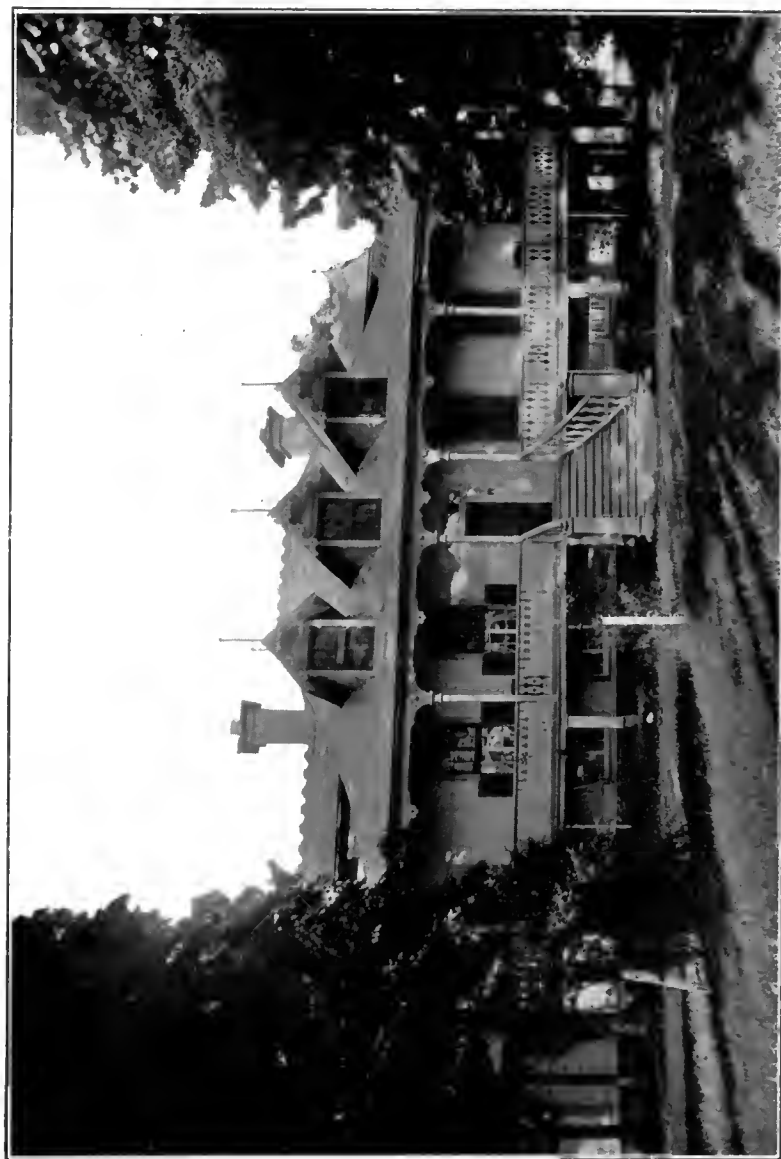
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**I**N 1736, M. Thomas Jacques Taschereau, treasurer of the marines and councillor of the Superior Council, in company with his father-in-law, Joseph Fleury de la Gorgendière, agent of the "Compagnie des Indes," and his brother-in-law, Pierre François de Rigaud de Vaudreuil, captain of marines, petitioned the Governor de Beauharnois and the Intendant Hocquart to grant each of them in fief a concession with three leagues of frontage and two leagues in depth along each side of the Chaudière river, below those already granted. The request was made that the three concessions should be contiguous. The three applicants bound themselves to build at their own expense, a large highway from Pointe Lévy, on the River St. Lawrence, to the Ilet aux Sapins (Fir Islet) in the Chaudière river, at which point the first of the three concessions requested was to commence. Messrs. de Beauharnois and Hocquart saw in this proposal a means for the immediate settlement of all of the vast valley of the Chaudière, and quickly granted the petition.

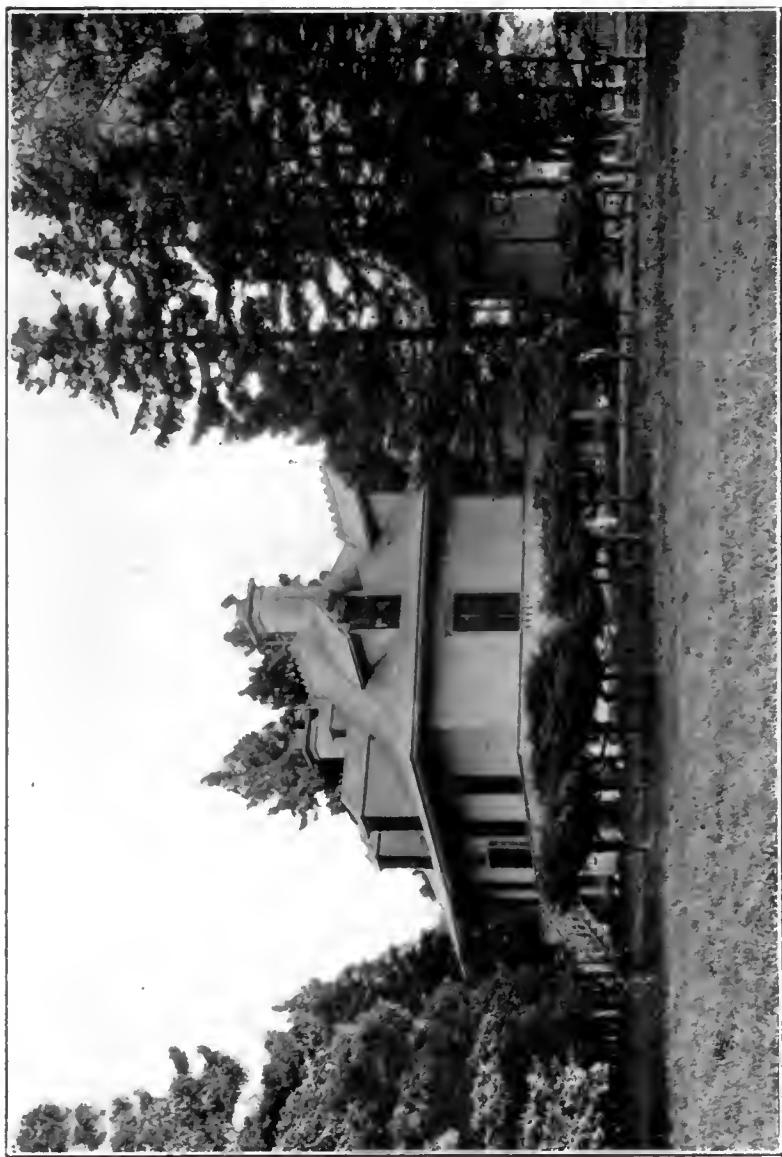
As his concession, M. Taschereau had three leagues of frontage by two leagues on each side of the Chaudière, commencing at the Ilet aux Sapins and going up the river. Within those boundaries to-day are situated all of Sainte Marie and portions of six or seven other parishes.

Nouvelle Beauce or Sainte Marie is one of the few seigneuries in New France which has always been in the possession of the same family. After Thomas Jacques Taschereau, who died on September 25, 1749, the principal chief seigneurs of Sainte Marie have been: the Hon. Gabriel Elzéar Taschereau, who died September 18, 1809; the Hon. Thomas Pierre Joseph Taschereau, who died October 8, 1826; Pierre Elzéar Taschereau, who died July 25, 1845; and Sir Henri Elzéar Taschereau, who died April 14, 1911, etc., etc.

The Sainte Marie manor house, which was built in the first quarter of the 19th century, is now occupied by the widowed Madame Charles Perreault Lindsay, *née* Marie Anna Evangéline Taschereau.



THE TASCHEREAU OR LINDSAY MANOR HOUSE, SAINTE MARIE DE LA BEAUCE



THE TASCHEREAU OR LINDSAY MANOR HOUSE, SAINTE MARIE DE LA BEAUCE

Rear view.

## THE DE LÉRY MANOR HOUSE, SAINT FRANÇOIS DE LA BEAUCE

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**T**HE seignury of Rigaud-Vaudreuil granted on September 23, 1736, to M. Fleury de la Gorgendière, agent of the Compagnie des Indes, passed first to Pierre François de Rigaud de Vaudreuil, then to M. Chartier de Lotbinière. On March 11, 1772, Joseph Gaspard Chaussegros de Léry acquired the seignury and since then it has remained in the hands of that family.

In the Notes on the Parish of Saint François de la Beauce, written by Abbé Benjamin Demers, we find this on the subject of two of the seigneurs who occupied the de Léry manor house:

“Born at Quebec on September 3, 1800, Charles Joseph de Léry was in his sixty-third year when, on February 4, 1864, death called him from an affectionate family and many friends . . . On several occasions M. de Léry was invited to enter public life, but he never consented. He preferred consecrating his leisure to the benefit of his tenants, who respected him as a father, and who always submitted to his judgment the little difficulties arising between them. His fortune, his knowledge which was both extensive and profound, but above all his urbanity and his affability, made the task easy and agreeable for him, and all those who went to consult him or to submit their differences to him returned home satisfied with his decisions . . .”

Of the Hon. Alexandre René Chaussegros de Léry, who was also seigneur of Rigaud-Vaudreuil, Abbé Demers wrote:

“His imposing physique and his distinguished manners stamped him as a scion of the ancient nobility. Generous-hearted, M. de Léry was the unostentatious benefactor of the poor, as much in the city as throughout his seigneuries, where his charity was so abundantly manifest. Not only was he generous of heart, he was also upright and sincere. Sincerity of heart, of action, and of words were considered by M. de Léry part of rigorous duty, and for the utter accomplishment of that duty he never permitted himself a word which did not carry the truth. Simple words, conveying one meaning; such was his language.”



THE DE LÉRY MANOR HOUSE, SAINT FRANÇOIS DE LA BEUCE  
M. Chaussegros de Léry was responsible for the erection of this sturdy old manor house.

## THE DE VINCENNES MILL, BEAUMONT

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ON November 3, 1672, the Intendant Talon granted to François Bissot de la Rivière, in favour of his sons, Jean Baptiste Bissot de Vincennes, four years old, and Charles François Bissot, eight years old, "in order to afford greater means for their establishment," seventy French acres of frontage by one league in depth bordering on the River Saint Lawrence, extending from the lands owned by M. de la Citière to non conceded territory.

Such is the fief and seignury known as de Vincennes, generally called Cap Saint Claude, probably because of the cape giving an extended view over the St. Lawrence and of the Saint Claude stream which, rising behind the domain, tumbled over the 150-foot cliff into the river, forming a very picturesque waterfall.

Neither François Bissot de la Rivière, his widow, Marie Couillard, who married Jacques de Lalande-Gayon, nor the young seigneurs Jean Baptiste Bissot de Vincennes and Charles François Bissot dwelt on the fief of Saint Claude or Vincennes. They contented themselves with making land grants to settlers desirous of locating near Quebec.

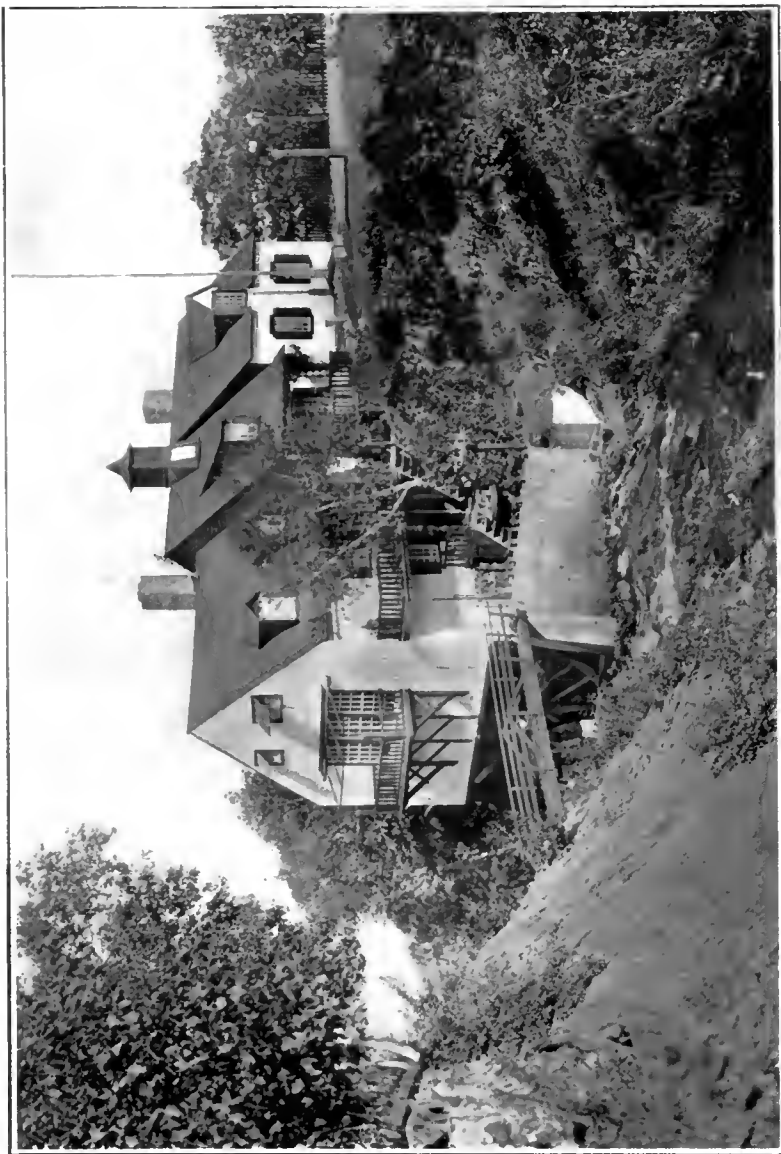
Jean Baptiste Bissot de Vincennes was an officer in the marines. He was long in command among the Miamis, in the American West, and died amid those Indians, with whom he was extremely popular. It was his son François Marie Bissot de Vincennes who was burned by the Chicachas in 1736; he is considered the founder of Indiana <sup>(1)</sup>.

Upon the death of Marguerite Forestier, widow of Jean Baptiste Bissot de Vincennes, in 1748, the fief and seignury known as de Vincennes was sold by order of the court and was purchased for five thousand six hundred pounds by Claude Joseph Roy, captain of the Beaumont coast militia. That was on August 19, 1749.

Prior to this purchase and with the permission of the seigneuresse, Roy had built a mill on the Saint Claude stream, at its junction with the Saint Lawrence, construction having

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<sup>(1)</sup> See: *Le Sieur de Vincennes, fondateur de l'Indiana, et sa famille.*

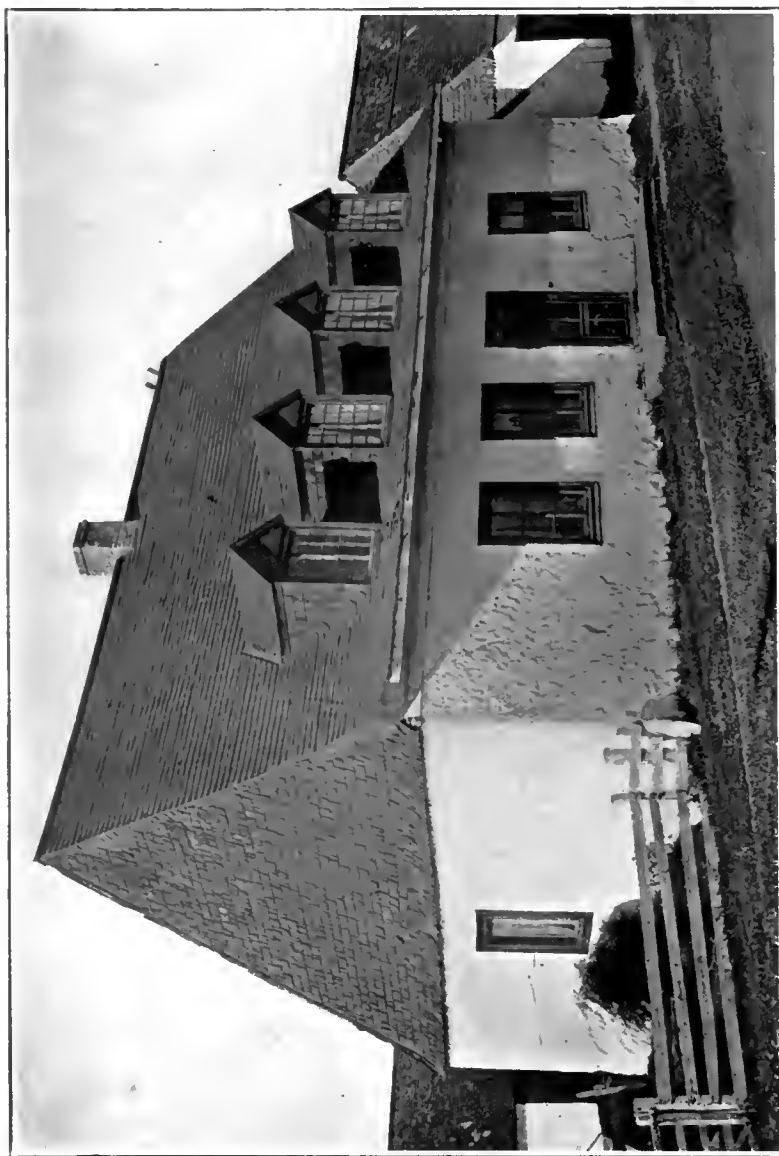


THE DE VINCENNES MILL, BEAUMONT

taken place in the summer of 1733. And it is that mill, several times restored, that is still to be seen near the Saint Claude fall.

Claude Joseph Roy died in his manor house of Vincennes on April 26, 1756. He left a son, Joseph Roy, and three daughters, Marie, married to Jean Corpron, Charlotte, married to Pierre Revol, and Marguerite, married to Charles Lecours. Corpron and Revol were accomplices of the Intendant Bigot. At the foot of the fall, on the shore, may still be seen the ruins of the immense entrepôt constructed by these two accomplices for the reception of grains bought at wretched prices from the poor habitants and resold to the King with profits of 100 per cent and higher. The profiteers of the Great War invented nothing. Those of the war of conquest had shown them the way.

The de Vincennes mill now is the property of Mr. Lorenzo Auger, Quebec architect, who has very cleverly restored it and created a little museum that may be visited with interest and advantage.



THE NAPOLEON BRETON HOUSE, BEAUMONT

More than 150 years old, this house is especially notable for the original natural pine wood partitions which have been preserved intact by the successive proprietors. The walls are of stone, lime washed.



THE EDGAR POIRÉ HOUSE, BEAUMONT

Almost a century old, this house had formerly a charming appearance, set back as it is three hundred feet from the road. Note the stone dairy at the rear of the house.



THE SIFROY ROY HOUSE, BEAUMONT

A well-preserved house over one hundred years old.

## THE OLD PRESBYTERY, BEAUMONT

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THE first church in Beaumont, a small building of wood, was built in 1694. Near it was placed a modest presbytery. In 1722 that presbytery was replaced by a more convenient house. And the second presbytery, more than two centuries old, still stands. For the past seventy or eighty years, it has served as a school. In 1904 it was restored, enlarged, buttressed, etc.

Certainly, were it given to the good old priests, who have occupied it for so many years, to return to Beaumont, they would not recognize the building, so much has it been altered. But what matter, at Beaumont the cult of remembrance exists, and the brave habitants have wished to preserve beside their old church the ancient presbytery their ancestors knew.

In 1897, M. J. Edmond Roy wrote:

“What souvenirs awaken in my mind when events of life lead me back to the old parish of Beaumont, so calm, so peaceful, with its ancient church perched on a promontory whence the eye scans a superb horizon. It was the cradle for two hundred years of my family; some one of those belonging to me has lived, toiled, suffered there. Men of my blood have brought those fields into bearing. How often have they tramped those shores, under full sun or on stormy night, to draw up their nets! In the shade of those leafy elms they have sat on days of joy or of mourning. How many of them sleep their last sleep in the old cemetery, near the edge of the cliff, facing the open sea! They rest in peace, awaiting the great awakening.

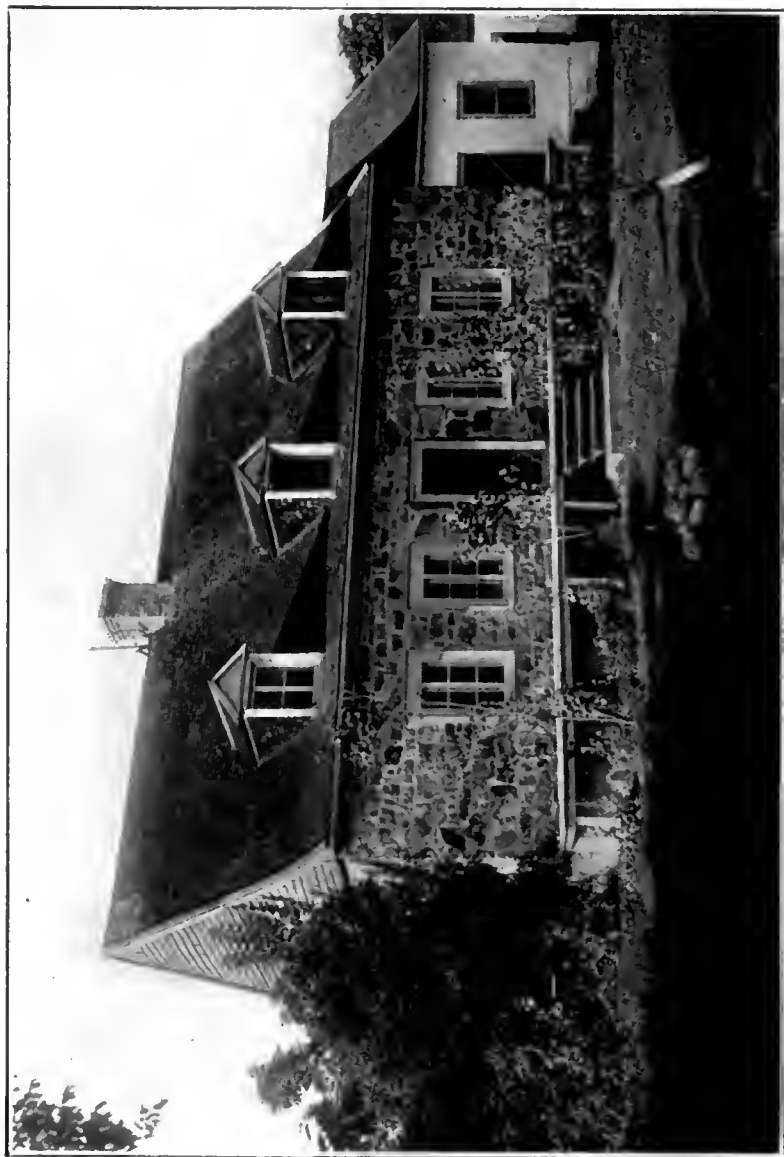
“Ancient ancestors—flesh of my flesh, bone of my bone,—you lived mid the most perfect calm and contentment. Beyond the confines of your fields you knew no horizon. Never did you experience the disenchantment of life. Why should I say Peace to your ashes? Do you not continue in death to enjoy the happiness that was yours on earth?” (1).

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(1) *Nicolas Roy et ses descendants*, p. 92.



THE OLD PRESBYTERY, BEAUMONT



THE OCTAVE FORTIN HOUSE, BEAUMONT

Built early in the last century, this house has weathered well under the careful maintenance its owners have always provided.



THE SYLVIO TURGEON HOUSE, BEAUMONT

One of the oldest, if not the oldest, house in Beaumont, dating from the very beginning of the creation of the parish. There are scarcely eight feet between the two floors. The beams supporting the upper floor, all of the finest pine, have never been painted nor even varnished.



THE PRESBYTERY, SAINT MICHEL DE BELLECHASSE

With walls four feet thick, panelled with pine inside and outside, this presbytery is at least 135 years old. It is 75 feet long, and 30 feet deep.



THE GAUDIAS SYLVAIN HOUSE, SAINT MICHEL DE BELLECHASSE  
One of the oldest houses in the district.



THE PRESBYTERY, SAINT VALLIER

This house dates from the first half of the 19th century. Formerly the main entrance faced north, but while the present church was under construction the presbytery also was restored and the main entrance was placed at the south. Happily, the "salle des habitants" has been preserved in its original condition.

## THE MANOR HOUSE OF THE DE LANAUDIÈRES, ST. VALLIER

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ON November 13, 1767, the Honourable Charles François Xavier Tarieu de Lanaudière, already owner of the seigneuries of Sainte Anne de la Pérade, of Tarieu, and of Lac Maskinongé or Lanaudière, acquired one-half of the fief and seignury of la Durantaye. This particular section, known as the fief or manor of Saint Vallier, had a frontage of one league and a half on the River Saint Lawrence, and a depth of four leagues. The Sisters of the General Hospital at Quebec, who had owned the seignury of Saint Vallier since August 18, 1720, had been forced to sell it to meet a loan the misfortunes of the period had obliged them to make from Benjamin Comte.

Always a friend of the Quebec institution in question, and, indeed, having among the nuns several relations of his own, M. de Lanaudière had not bought the seignury of Saint Vallier with the object of speculation. It was at the request of the Sisters, who foresaw the ruin of their house if they were unable to meet their financial obligations, that he made the purchase.

The Hon. M. de Lanaudière never lived on his seignury of Saint Vallier. On his death, which took place on February 1, 1776, in the General Hospital at Quebec, the manor passed to his son, the celebrated Chevalier de Lanaudière, he of whom his loving father said: "Were I to place my son on one side of the scales, and on the other all the gold he has cost before receiving what is due him, he would outweigh the gold by far." The Chevalier, like his father, never lived at Saint Vallier. His duties in service and as aide de camp to the Governor held him in the town.

The Misses Marie Louise and Agathe de Lanaudière, sisters of the Chevalier, were the first members of this distinguished family to live at Saint Vallier. They had their manor house built in a beautiful little cove giving an extended view over the river. M. Aubert de Gaspé, the nephew of these ladies, has much to say of their stay at the manor house of Saint Vallier, in the *Memoirs* he has written.

A younger brother of the Misses de Lanaudière, Antoine Ovide, one of the heroes of the war of 1812, also lived for some



THE MANOR HOUSE OF THE DE LANAUDIÈRES, SAINT VALLIER

years at the manor house of Saint Vallier. He died there on December 16, 1838, at the age of 66. The *Gazette de Quebec*, the day after his death, said of this gentleman: "The poor lose their best friend. While he lived, he was the father of his parish; never did anyone knock at his door in vain. Well could they inscribe on his tomb: 'Frank, upright, honest, loyal, and friend of the poor,' and surely nobody would have denied him these qualities." Several other members of the de Lanaudière family passed away at the Saint Vallier manor house.

With the disappearance of the de Lanaudières, the old residence passed to Thomas Pope, at one time mayor of Quebec, to the Alleyn family, which was in residence there for twenty-five years, to Thomas Lemieux, member of a family which has been in the district for over 200 years. Later it was bought by F. X. Larue, a notary, who added a stone terrace and lookout at the end of the property from which a splendid view is secured of the river, the Island of Orleans, and of Cap Tourmente, on the left bank of the Saint Lawrence.

Known now as "Murval," the manor house of Saint Vallier belongs to the Amos family, which has had the building enlarged and improved.

## THE DÉNÉCHAUD MANOR HOUSE, BERTHIER-EN-BAS (LOWER BERTHIER)

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**B**ERTHIER-EN-BAS to-day covers the area known in the early days of the French régime as the seigneurie of Bellechasse. That seigneurie was one of the first granted in New France, the Company of New France making the concession on March 28, 1637, to Nicolas Marsolet, famed as an interpreter.

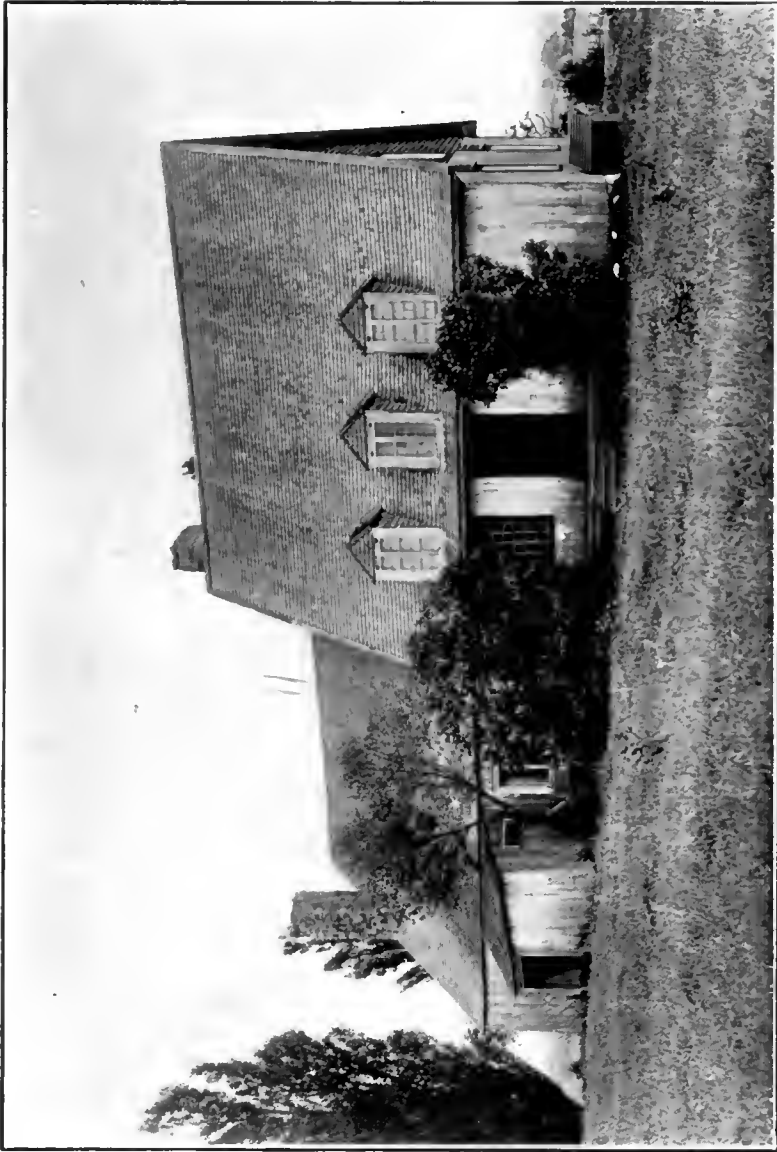
Marsolet never occupied his seigneurie, neither did he make any grants from it. On October 29, 1672, the Intendant Talon granted to Captain Berthier, of the Carignan regiment, an area two leagues square, with frontage on the River Saint Lawrence, from the Bellechasse cove, which was included, running toward Rivière du Sud. As this concession overlapped that given to M. Marsolet in 1637, the latter signed, on November 15, 1672, an act yielding in favour of M. Berthier.

Death came to M. Berthier at his Berthier manor in December, 1708. As his wife and his only son had died before him, he willed his seigneurie to his daughter-in-law, Françoise Viennay Pachot; she remarried on April 4, 1712, her second husband being Nicolas Blaise des Bergères de Rigauville, ensign.

The Berthier seigneurie remained with the Bergères de Rigauville family for a little under three-quarters of a century. By his will, dated 24th June, 1780, the Abbé Bergères de Rigauville, last of his line, left the seigneurie to the General Hospital at Quebec. That gift, and many others earned him the title of "second founder of the General Hospital."

On July 8, 1813, the General Hospital turned over the fief and seigneurie for twenty-nine years to Claude Dénéchaud, deputy of Upper Town, Quebec, and justice of the peace of His Majesty. Among other things, the lessee bound himself to rebuild the common mill, to furnish each year to the ladies of the General Hospital 450 bushels of "good wheat, unadulterated and saleable," and to pay an annual rental of sixty-two pounds ten shillings in the current money of the Province.

At that time, M. Dénéchaud was one of the richest merchants in Canada. He more than fulfilled all the terms of



THE DÉNÉCHAUD MANOR HOUSE, BERTHIER-EN-BAS (LOWER BERTHIER)

his emphyteutic lease. With his family, he took up residence at the Berthier manor house, which quickly became the rendezvous of many friends. But lean years came later, and when the seigneur died in his manor house on October 30, 1836, the greater part of his wealth had disappeared, and with it most of the friends of sunnier days.

On December 1, 1836, Adelaïde Gauvreau, widow of the deceased Claude Dénéchaud, arranged with the ladies of the General Hospital for continuance of the lease on the property under the same conditions as heretofore; but the widow's income would not permit her to live on the plane to which she had been earlier accustomed, and the land returned to the General Hospital on June 28, 1838. The Sisters of the General Hospital retained the manor until the conclusion of the seignorial régime in Canada <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> For greater detail on the seigneurie of Bellechasse or Berthier-en-Bas, see the *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*, vol. XXVII, p. 65.



THE DÉNÉCHAUD MANOR HOUSE, BERTHIER-EN-BAS (LOWER BERTHIER)

Rear view.

## THE COUILLARD MANOR HOUSE, MONTMAGNY

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**A**NTOINE Couillard de Lespinay, born February 16, 1789, went to Philadelphia and obtained his degree as doctor of medicine at the University of Philadelphia; then he returned to Quebec and for several years practised his profession. Seigneur of Rivière du Sud, M. Couillard had long had in mind a project for returning to Saint Thomas. The old manor house, which had lodged his ancestors, was crumbling; he decided to rebuild and to make it one of the finest houses of the period.

The cost of the work outran by a large amount the estimate of M. Couillard, and, since his land was already mortgaged in connection with other debts, he had to reckon with the demands of his creditors. Meanwhile, he had been appointed registrar of the county of L'Islet. This tardy aid, however, could not avert ruin, and the entire property was sold for three thousand pounds, just sufficient to meet the debts. The huge estate, which had passed from generation to generation within the same family, went to other people. The sensitive ex-seigneur, recalling that the land had been in the family since the time of Louis Couillard, was unable to survive the blow and he died on June 15, 1847, aged 56.

In his *Anciens Canadiens*, M. Aubert de Gaspé, perhaps the best and closest friend of M. Couillard, addressed him this farewell:

"Oldest and most constant of friends, you have abandoned me in this world of suffering, after a flawless friendship of more than half a century, to enter into perfect peace. You also, O most virtuous of men known to me, drank from the cup of bitter tribulation. You saw the hearth of your ancestors pass to the stranger; and when you descended into the tomb you carried with you of all the vast domain of the Islet <sup>(1)</sup> which you loved even as a child, nothing more than the handful of earth that the grave-digger and your friends placed on your coffin."

Mr. Randall Patton was the purchaser of the seigneurial

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(1) *L'Islet au Petit Couillard* referred to in *Anciens Canadiens*.



THE COUILLARD MANOR HOUSE, MONTMAGNY

domain of Rivière du Sud. Sir James Lemoine informs us that in 1850 Mr. Patton named him counsel for the estate. "My principal task," he says, "was to eat solid meals at the manor house, and to sign many notices of suit in order to secure payment of the innumerable arrears in the seigneurial cense and rents. Mr. Patton died August 13, 1853, and his family shortly after left Saint Thomas.

Maurice Rousseau, a lawyer and former mayor of Montmagny, is now owner of the Couillard or Patton manor house <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Information regarding the Couillard manor house has been drawn from the excellent work of Abbé Couillard Després, *Histoire des Seigneurs de la Rivière du Sud et de leurs alliés canadiens et acadiens*.



THE PATTON MILL, MONTMAGNY

This mill was constructed by seigneur Patton, shortly after he had acquired the seigneurie of Rivière du Sud. The building has always been carefully maintained.



THE HOUSE OF SIR ÉTIENNE PASCAL TACHÉ, MONTMAGNY

Born at Montmagny, Sir Étienne Pascal Taché, twice Prime Minister of Canada, was always loth to leave his birthplace. His fifteen children were born in this house; he himself died here July 30, 1865.



THE JOSEPH TÊTU HOUSE, MONTMAGNY

This house dates from the end of the French régime or the earliest days of the English régime. The porch robs the old structure of its purity of line.



THE DUPUIS MANOR HOUSE, MONTMAGNY

The Couillard-Dupuis family has been in Montmagny now for almost two and a half centuries. Guillaume Couillard, the first ancestor, settled in Quebec in 1613.



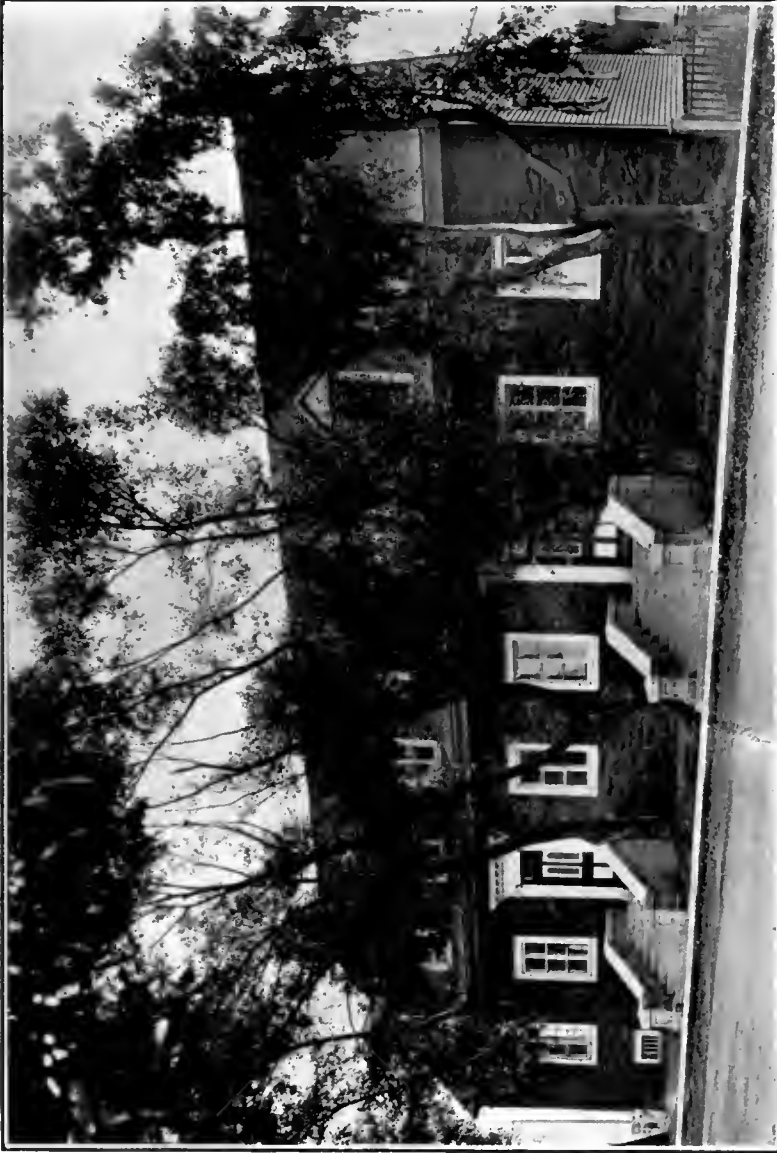
THE GAMACHE MANOR HOUSE, CAP SAINT IGNACE

This old house recalls a seigneurie granted by Governor de Frontenac on November 3, 1672, to Messrs. Gamache and Belle-Avance. This seigneurie was divided on November 1, 1689; Belle-Avance's share took the name of the Gagnier or Lafresnaye fief, and that of Gamache became known as the Gamache or L'Islet fief. Edouard Fortin is the present occupant.



THE CHENEST OR BEAUBIEN MANOR HOUSE, CAP SAINT IGNACE

Built of superimposed cedar beams, this solid old residence was erected before 1825 by the notary Chenest, seigneur of the Vincelotte manor. The Hon. Joseph Octave Beaubien lived here for years. Dr. Valère Côté, the present proprietor, purchased the house from the late Amélie Beaubien, a notary.



THE OLD PRESBYTERY, CAP SAINT IGNACE

This old house, with its close-set windows, is the old presbytery of the parish of Cap Saint Ignace. Like all the old presbyteries, it contained a large "salle des habitants." It is now used as a parish hall.



THE BANAL MILL, VINCELOTTE SEIGNEUR, CAP SAINT IGNACE

More than two hundred years old, the mill retained its fans up to some forty years ago. It is thought to have been built by Charles Joseph Amyot de Vincelotte, son of Geneviève de Chavigny. This lady, widow of Charles Amyot de Vincelotte, was granted the manor of Vincelotte by the Intendant Talon on November 3, 1672.

## THE RUINS OF THE MANOR HOUSE OF THE AUBERT DE GASPÉ FAMILY, ST. JEAN PORT JOLI

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**T**OURISTS and others who stop at the pretty village of Trois Saumons, St. Jean Port Joli, will see this inscription, placed north of the road by the Historic Monuments Commission:

"Within a short distance of this spot stood the manor house of the Aubert de Gaspé family. M. de Gaspé wrote *Les Anciens Canadiens* in this house."

The manor house, at the time inhabited by the late Evariste Leclerc, was burned during the night of April 30, 1909.

Contrary to general opinion, the manor house did not date back to the French régime. The old manor house was burned by the English during the summer of 1759. The seigneur Philippe Aubert de Gaspé, who served in the army, took part in the battles of Carillon and of Sainte Foy. After the capitulation of Montreal he withdrew to his seigneurie; the war had almost ruined him. It was only in 1765 or 1766 that he was able to rebuild his manor house, the one which was occupied by his son Pierre Ignace, and his grandson, Philippe Joseph Aubert de Gaspé, author of *Anciens Canadiens*.

In that work, when the old story teller speaks of the manor house known as d'Haberville, he is really talking of his ancestral manor. Here is the description, written by the man who lived there for many happy years:

"The d'Haberville manor house was at the foot of a cape which covered a strip of nine arpents of the seigneurial estate, south of the chemin du Roi (King's highway). Some one hundred feet in height, this cape or promontory was very picturesque; its summit, covered with resinous trees retaining their green foliage all winter, offered some consolation for the sad spectacle afforded during this season by the countryside wrapped in its hyperborean shroud. The hemlocks, the spruce, the pines and the firs, ever green, rested eyes, saddened for six months by looking at less favoured trees stripped of their leaves; and they covered the slope and the foot of the



THE MANOR HOUSE OF THE AUBERT DE GASPÉ FAMILY, SAINT JEAN PORT JOLI

The ruins as they are to-day.

promontory. Jules d'Haberville often compared the emerald-topped trees, braving the rigours of the hardest season from their lofty station, to the great and powerful ones of the earth who never lose their possessions, while the poor shiver at their feet.

"The brush of a Claude Lorrain might well have ornamented the flank and foot of this cape, so wide was the variety of trees which seemed to have gathered together from all parts of the adjacent forests to co-operate in beautifying the spot. Elms, maples, birches, beeches, red spruce, ash, wild cherry, cedars, mascouabinas, and other native plants and trees which contribute to the luxuriousness of our forest combined richly to beautify the austere outlines of the cape.

"A grove of venerable maples completely covered the space between the foot of the cape and the royal road, which ran between hedges of hazel and wild rose.

"The first object which struck the eye of the traveller on reaching the d'Haberville domain was a stream which, tumbling among the trees along the south-west flank of the promontory, mingled its limpid waters with those from a spring two hundred feet lower; the stream, winding across the plain, merged into the Saint Lawrence.

"The fountain, cut into the living rock and fed by the sparkling water which filtered drop by drop through the stones of the little mountain, was all that the owners of the estate could wish for when summer heat arrived. A small, lime-washed building had been built over the tree-shaded spring. Like modest nymph, she seemed to want to steal away from sight under cover of the thick foliage which surrounded her. Seats, placed outside and inside of this little kiosk, cone-like birch bark vessels slung from the walls, seemed to convey the invitation of the generous naiad to the thirsty traveller sweltering in the dog-days.

"The summit of the cape still has its crown of emerald; the flank, its greenery during the fine season; but scarcely five of the maples remain, the last relics of the magnificent grove which was the glory of this picturesque scene. Of the thirty-five which seemed so full of life forty years ago, full thirty, as though marked out by Fate itself, have succumbed one by one as each year has passed. The perishing of those



THE RUINS OF THE MANOR HOUSE OF THE AUBERT DE GASPÉ FAMILY,  
SAINT JEAN PORT JOLI

The old oven in which the household bread was baked.

trees under the destructive action of time, like the last years of the present owner of the estate, seem to presage that his life, linked with their existence, will be snuffed out with the passage of the last veteran of the grove. When the last log, used to warm the limbs of the old man, shall have been consumed, his ashes will mingle with those of the tree he has burned; a sinister and lugubrious warning, comparable with that of the Catholic priest at the beginning of Lent: *Memento, homo, quia pulvis es, et in pulverem reverteris*.

"The manor house, located between the River Saint Lawrence and the promontory, was only separated from it by a large courtyard, the King's highway, and the grove. It was of one storey, steep-roofed, one hundred feet long, flanked by two 15-foot wings which proceeded out toward the main court. A bakery, adjoining the north-west side of the kitchen, served also as a laundry. A little summer house, contiguous to a large salon to the south-west, gave some regularity of line to this pile of old Canadian construction.

"Two other outbuildings to the south-east served as dairy and a second laundry, masking a well which communicated by a long scupper with the kitchen of the main building. Coach houses, barns and stables, five little pavillions, three of which were in the grove, a vegetable garden to the south-west of the manor, two orchards, one to the north, the other to the north-east, will give some idea of this residence of an old Canadian seigneur, which the folk round about called the d'Haberville village.

"No matter in what direction he threw his glance, the spectator seated on the top of the cape could but congratulate himself on his choice of an elevated perch, however little he might be enamoured of the lovely scenes Nature offers on the banks of the Saint Lawrence. Did he lower his eyes, the little village, almost startling in its whiteness, seemed to leap from the green fields which spread out to the river edge. Did he raise his eyes, a magnificent panorama unfolded before him; a monarch among rivers, seven leagues wide at this point, spreading northward, screened only by the Laurentians whose feet bathe in the waters, whose heights are in the picture, and whose flanks are dotted with cunning little villages, from Cap Tourmente to Malbaie; to the west Ile aux Oies (Goose

Island) and Ile aux Grues (Crane Island); opposite, les Piliers (the Pillars), one bare and arid like the rock of Ossa of the magician Circé, the other evergreen like Calypso; to the north the shallows where lurked the seals, so beloved of Canadian hunters; lastly, the two villages of L'Islet and Saint Jean Port Joli, crowned by the spires of their churches."

Alas! all that remains of the old de Gaspé manor house and its outbuildings is one little structure, falling into ruin near the highway, and that spring carved in the living rock so happily described by the old author of *Les Anciens Canadiens*. All the rest, or most of it, has succumbed to Time.



THE BANAL MILL OF THE AUBERT DE GASPÉ FAMILY, SAINT JEAN PORT JOLI

Built under the French régime, the mill to-day presents a changed aspect because of modifications. When, in the summer of 1759, the Aubert de Gaspé manor house was burned by the English, the seigneur and his family withdrew to this mill and lived in part of it for some years.



THE BANAL MILL OF THE AUBERT DE GASPÉ FAMILY, SAINT JEAN PORT JOLI  
Interior view, giving an excellent idea of the solidity of construction as carried out under the French régime. Note especially the beams.

## THE MANOR HOUSE OF GRANDE ANSE OR ST. ROCH DES AULNAIES

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ON April 1, 1656, Governor de Lauzon granted to Nicolas Juchereau, Esq., sieur de Saint Denys, an area with three leagues frontage on the south bank of the River Saint Lawrence, at the place known to the Indians as Kamouraska; it was two leagues wide. Such is the seigneurie of Grande Anse or St. Roch des Aulnaies.

For more than 175 years that seigneurie remained the property of the Juchereau-Duchesnay family. Upon the death of the Hon. Jean Baptiste Juchereau-Duchesnay, who passed away on January 12, 1833, without issue, the manor was acquired by the Hon. Amable Dionne (1833-1837). He left the seigneurie to his son, Pascal Amable Dionne.

The manor house was built from plans drawn by the architect Baillairgé; M. Dionne took possession of it in 1853. In 1898, Mgr. Henri Têtu wrote:

"The manor house of St. Roch des Aulnaies is situated on an eminence set apart, and the new seigneur transformed it into an earthly paradise. At great expense, he planted trees of all kinds, in particular fruit trees whose cultivation he understood perfectly.

"A small river, forming a fall some hundred feet from the château, contributed its share. It already turned the mill wheel lower down; that was utilitarian; but M. Dionne was always anxious for the attractive. A small section of the current was diverted to spread in limpid array in the generous basin dug for it in the middle of the garden. The utilitarian—I mean the mill—also belonged to M. Dionne. Like the estate, it had long been placed in the hands of Etienne Etchenback, husband of Geneviève Perrault.

"Young, wealthy, intelligent and educated, married to a lady of accomplishment able to fulfil the functions of her manor house, father of charming children who adorned and enlivened this beautiful home, it seemed that nothing could be wanting for the happiness of the seigneur des Aulnaies, if perfect happiness on earth be possible.



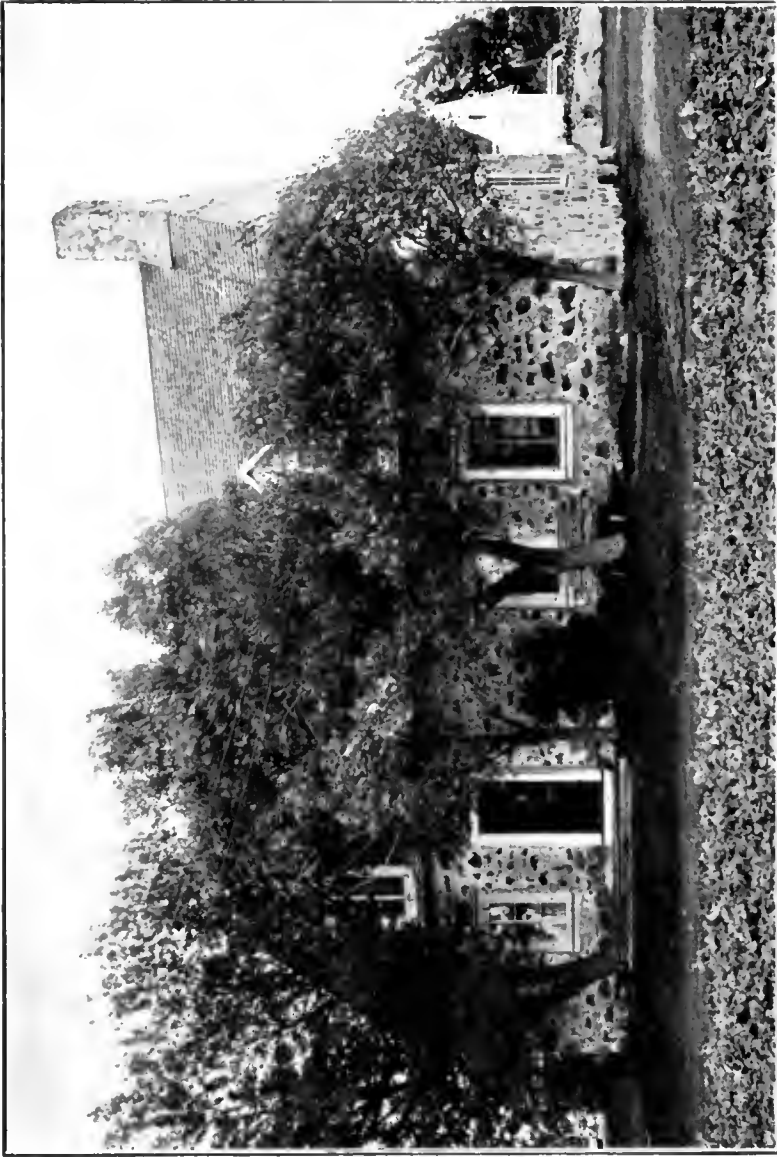
THE MANOR HOUSE OF GRANDE ANSE OR SAINT ROCH DES AULNAIES

"M. Dionne had a short career, for he died at the age of forty-three. A victim of tuberculosis, he suffered for some months the painful and languishing existence of all those afflicted by the malady. Cared for with the tenderness of his loving wife and beloved children, protected and sustained by the constant prayers of his pious mother, he separated from the perishable things of this world and prepared himself, through reception of the Holy Sacraments, for the enjoyment of the imperishable things of the next life. He died September 16, 1870, and his remains were interred in the crypt of the church of St. Roch des Aulnaies"<sup>(1)</sup>.

On February 2, 1894, Mr. Arthur Miville Dechêne, later the Hon. Senator Dechêne, acquired the seigneurie and manor house of St. Roch des Aulnaies. By his will, received by the notary Dupont on March 14, 1901, Senator Dechêne left his seigneurie and manor house to his son, Mr. Arthur Miville Dechêne.

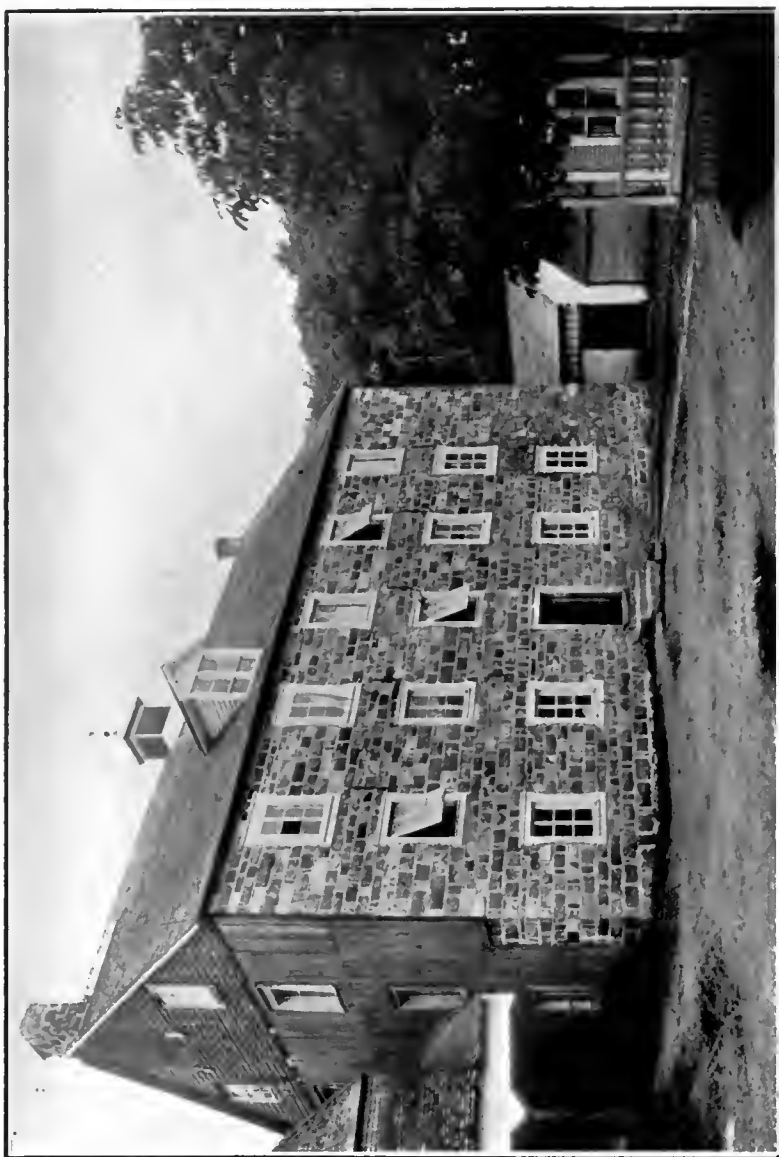
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<sup>(1)</sup> *Histoire des familles Tetu, Bonenfant, Dionne et Perreault*, p. 554.



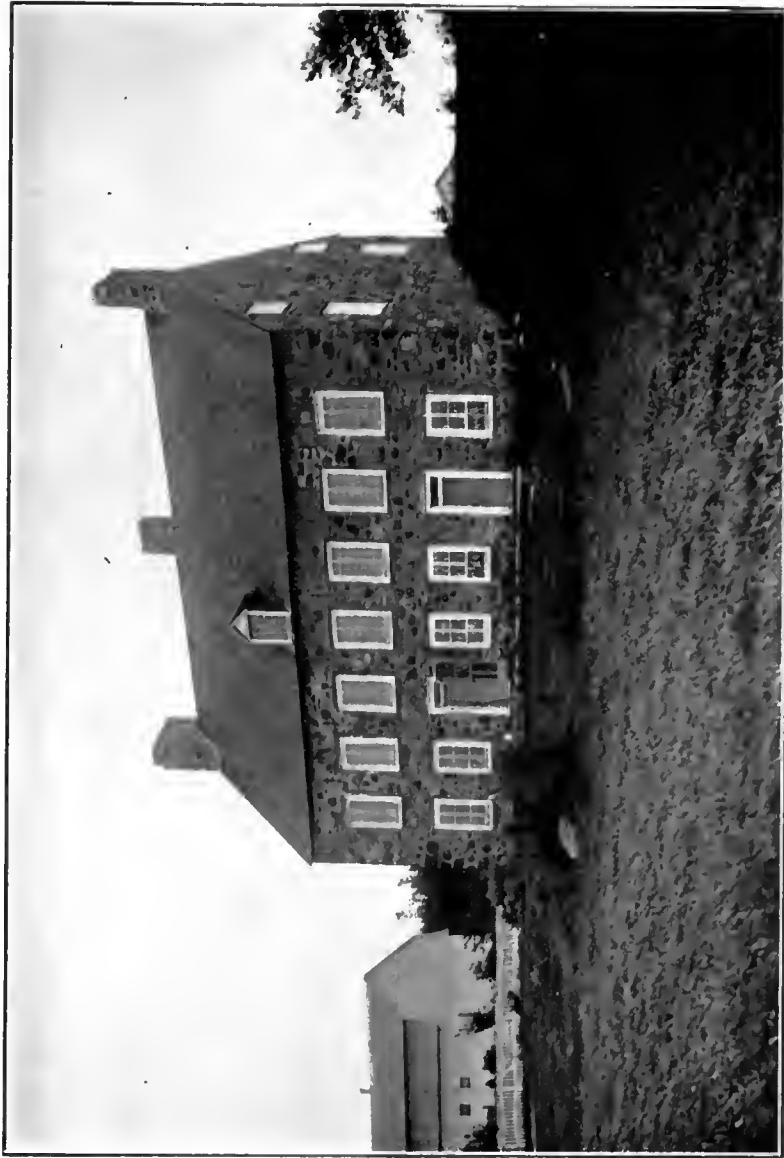
THE MIVILLE DECUÈNE HOUSE, SAINT ROCH DES AULNAIES

Having walls three and a half feet thick, this house is thought to date back to the French régime. In the Decuène family tradition has it that, in the summer of 1759, the English tried to burn the house, but that it was saved by the intervention of people of the district hidden in the woods nearby.



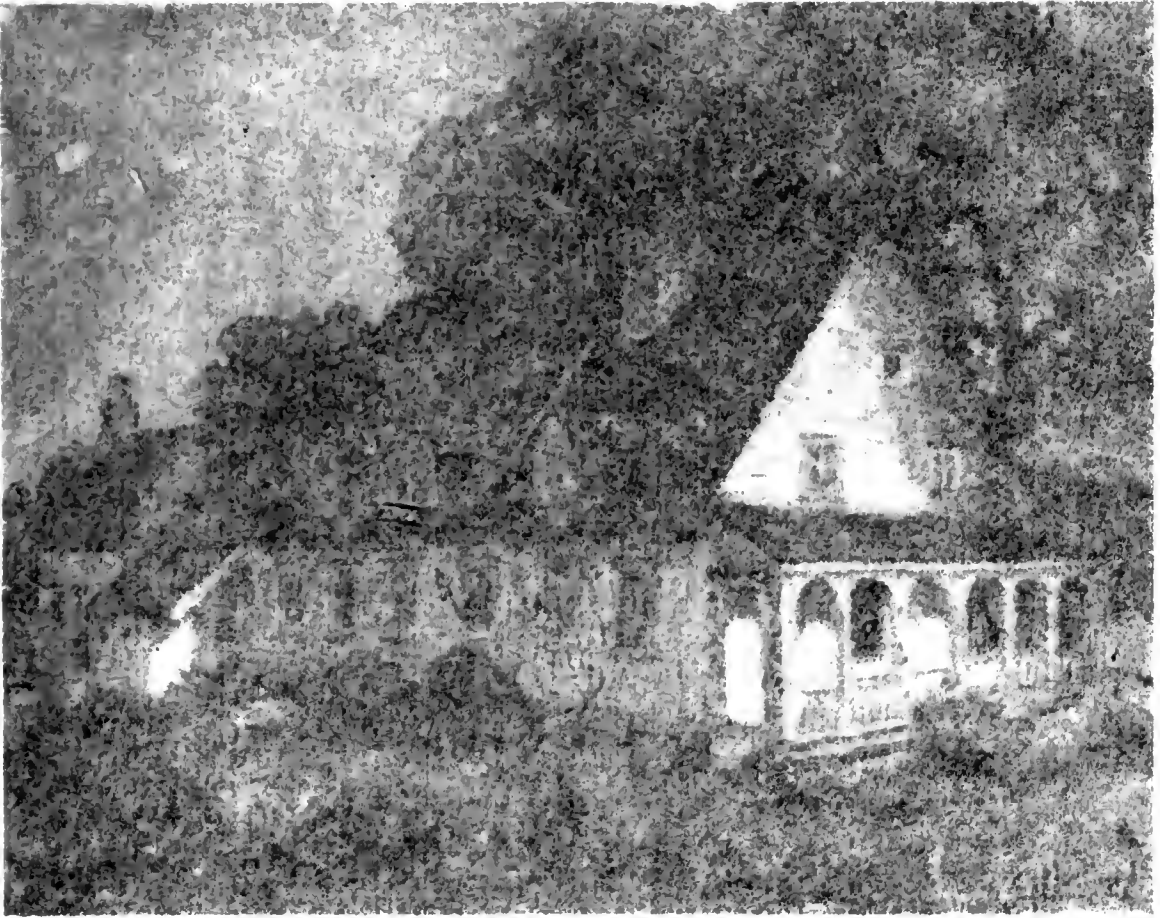
THE BANAL MILL, SAINT ROCH DES AULNAIES

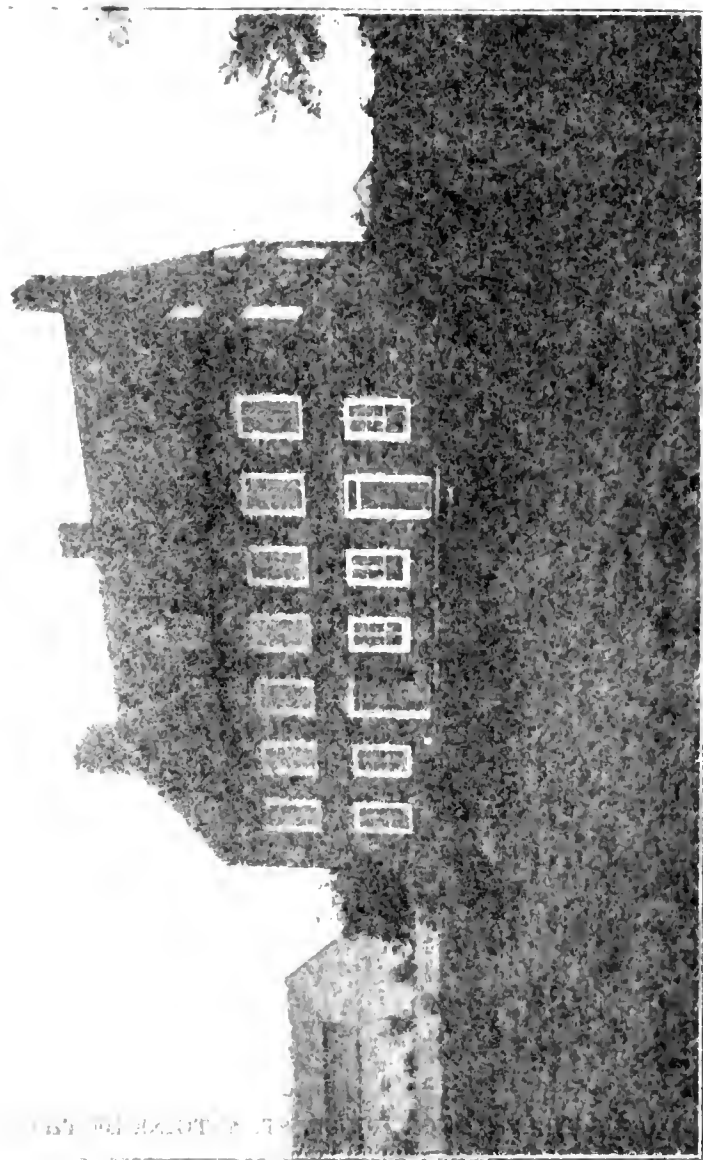
Jean Baptiste Juchereau-Duchesnay, Seigneur of Saint Roch des Aulnaies, erected this mill. A later seigneur, M. Dionne, added one storey, giving the building its present form. It is in an excellent state of preservation.



THE JOSEPH LÉTOURNEAU HOUSE, SAINT ROCH DES AULNAIES

Almost a hundred years old is this residence, notable for its size. It is bigger than many a country convent.





The Joseph I Fourneau House, near Roch des Aulnais

Almost a hundred years old is this residence, notable for its size. It is bigger than many  
 convent.





## THE DIONNE MANOR HOUSE, STE ANNE DE LA POCATIÈRE

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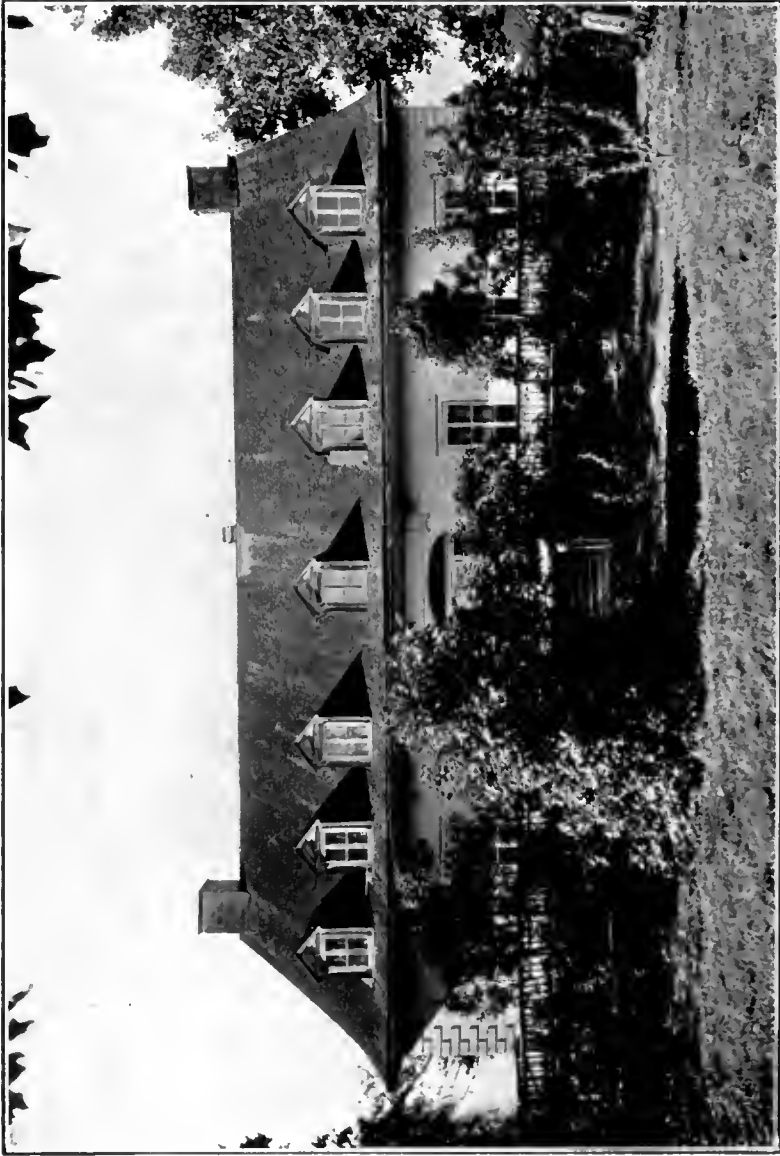
**O**CTOBER 29, 1672, saw the la Pocatière seigneurie granted to Marie Anne Juchereau, widow of François de la Combe Pocatière, officer in the Carignan regiment. By the widow's remarriage with François Madeleine Ruelle d'Auteuil, the seigneurie passed into the d'Auteuil family, which retained it for almost a century. From 1746 to 1777 the Rhéaume family were the proprietors. On October 23, 1777, Charles Auguste Rhéaume sold the seigneurie to Lachlan Smith; the heirs of this gentleman sold their shares of the seigneurie to the Hon. Amable Dionne between 1830 and 1835.

The Hon. M. Dionne had a magnificent manor house built at Sainte Anne, from the plans and under the supervision of Eugène Casgrain, his son-in-law. He died in his manor house on May 2, 1852.

"Possessor of a large fortune," says Mgr. Têtu, "M. Dionne always employed it in the noblest and most generous manner. There is not a parish in the county of Kamouraska which has not benefited by his liberality. All institutions, civil and religious, enjoyed his patronage. He encouraged all talent, protected all useful enterprises, and contributed largely to all benevolent works. For the poor he was a real provider, and his hand invariably opened at the appeal of the needy."

It was the younger son, the Hon. Elisée Dionne, who inherited the la Pocatière seigneurie. Admitted to the Bar in 1851, he showed greater interest in agriculture. "He realized the ideal of the true country gentleman, who understands the nobility of his mission, and of whom England and France furnish such fine examples." The Hon. M. Dionne was Minister of Agriculture and of Public Works in the Mousseau government from 1882 to 1884, and proved himself an active and conscientious administrator. He died in the manor house on August 22, 1892.

The heirs of the Hon. M. Dionne sold the manor on May 8, 1893, to Arthur Miville Dechêne, later the Hon. Senator Dechêne. The old Dionne manor house to-day is the property of the widowed Madame Chrysologue Harton.

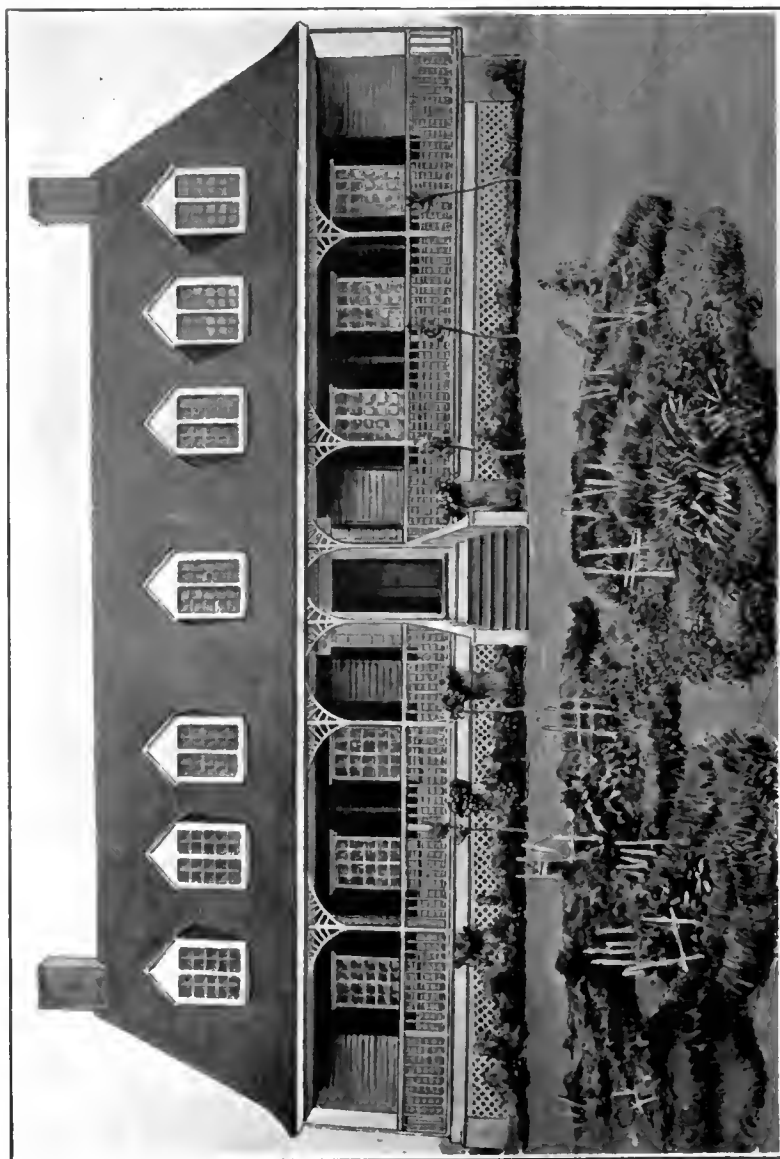


THE DIONNE MANOR HOUSE, SAINTE ANNE DE LA POCAÏÈRE



THE BANAL MILL, SAINTE ANNE DE LA POCATIÈRE

This fine old mill was built by the Honourable Elisée Dionne, seigneur of Sainte Anne de la Pocatière.



THE D'AIRVAULT OR CASGRAIN MANOR HOUSE, RIVIÈRE OUELLE

Built over a century ago, this is the d'Airvault or Casgrain manor house so often mentioned in the work of Abbé H. R. Casgrain. Joseph Casgrain is the present occupant.



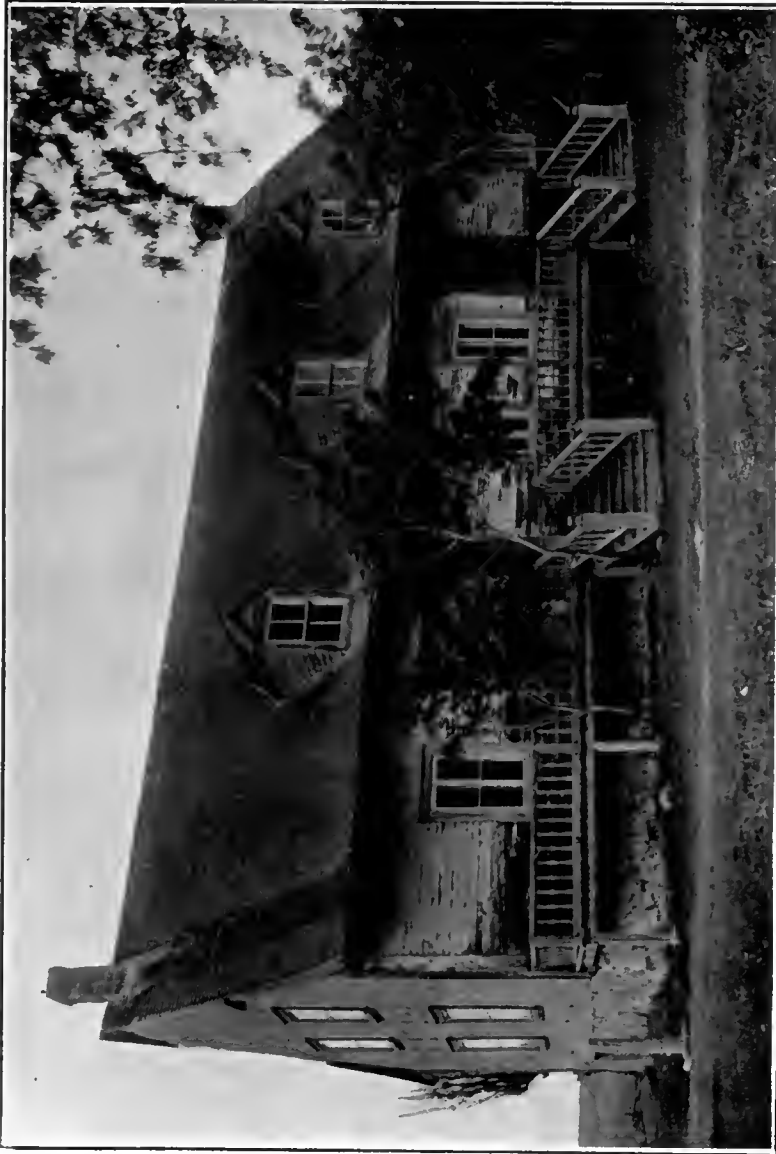
THE CHAPAIS HOUSE, RIVIÈRE OUELLE

This house was built by Thomas Chapais, notary, brother of the Hon. Jean Charles Chapais, one of the Fathers of Confederation. Mgr. Têtu, in 1910, said of Rivière Ouelle: "This parish has given thirty-seven priests to the Church; and as for statesmen, it is certainly in the lead. The Hon. Jean Charles Chapais, the Hon. Luc Letellier de Saint Just, Sir Alphonse Pelletier, the Hon. Ernest Cagnon, the Hon. Pantaléon Pelletier, etc., are proof of that fact".



THE JOSEPH LEVESQUE HOUSE, SAINT DENIS DE KAMOURASKA

A graven stone over the door announces that this house was built in 1805.



THE VINET HOUSE, SAINT GERMAIN DE KAMOURASKA

A very old residence, still well preserved, but which has seen days of greater splendour.

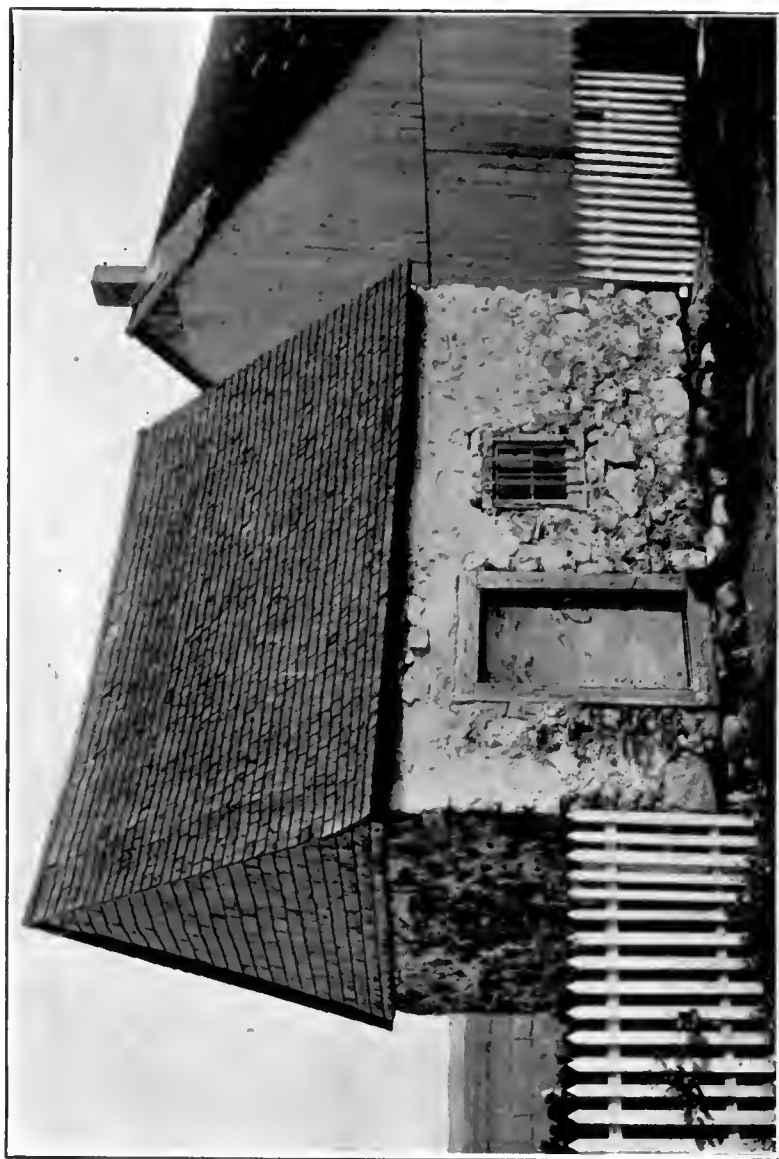


THE WILFRID LANGLAIS HOUSE, KAMOURASKA

Jean Lebel built this house toward 1750, tradition has it. It was partly destroyed by the English in 1759, but rebuilt the year after on the same walls.



THE WILFRID LANGLAIS HOUSE, KAMOURASKA  
The northern façade.



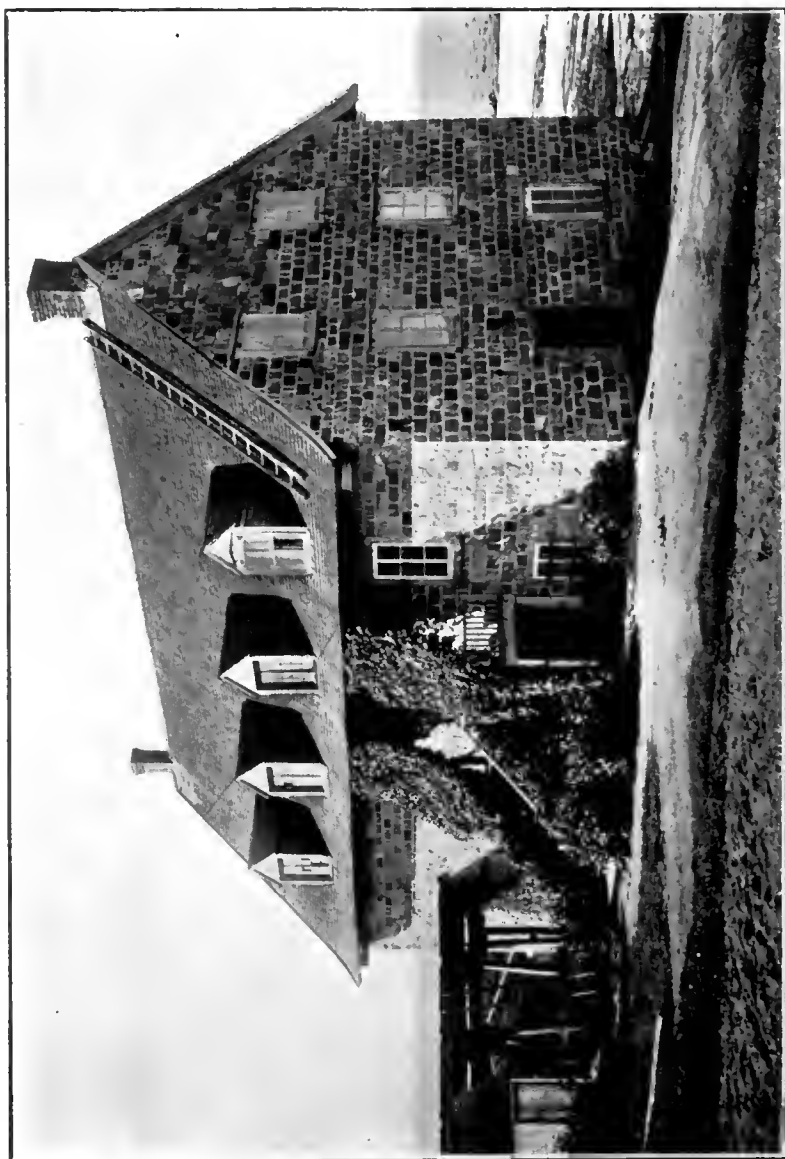
THE WILFRID LANGLAIS HOUSE, KAMOURASKA

This little stone building is the dairy serving the house. In former days, most farmers built their dairies of stone, this material affording greater coolness and lower temperature in summer heat



THE SAINT LAURENT MILL, ISLE VERTE

This mill is of the type built last century throughout this section of the country. Labour, at that period, cost so little that solid construction was no luxury; moreover, field stone was abundant almost everywhere.



THE BANAL MILL, SAINTE LUCE

This old mill was erected by the "seigneuresse" Drapeau; in later years it was repaired by Judge Ulric Tessier, at that time owner of the seigneurie. To-day it is the property of Émile Perreault.

## THE NAIRNE OR DUGGAN MANOR HOUSE, MALBAIE

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**C**HAMPLAIN himself baptized Malbaie in 1698. The word "male" is an old adjective formerly meaning "bad". Champlain, finding anchorage difficult at the foot of Cap à l'Aigle (Eagle Cape), naturally wrote of a "bad bay". The name has been retained.

The Malbaie seigneurie was originally granted by the Intendant Talon to the sieur Gaultier de Comporté on November 7, 1672. Bought a little later by François Hazeur, the seigneurie was sold by his two sons, the canons Hazeur, to the King's government for twenty thousand pounds. That was in 1724.

On April 27, 1762, the vast area was re-granted by Governor Murray in two concessions, one to Malcolm Fraser (Mount Murray), the other to John Nairne (Murray Bay). On their seigneuries, the two seigneurs, Nairne and Fraser, established a goodly number of Scottish settlers; the Warrens, the Harveys, the McLeans, the Blackburns, etc., etc. The descendants of those settlers have created many families Scottish in name, but French-Canadian in faith, language and customs.

In 1861, exactly one hundred years after Colonel Nairne had gone to Malbaie, his grandson and the last of the line, John McNicol Nairne, died in the manor house. In 1884, Mrs. Nairne passed away, leaving the seigneurie and manor house of Malbaie to W. E. Duggan, a lawyer. The present owner is E. J. Duggan, brother of the late W. E. Duggan, who died in 1898.



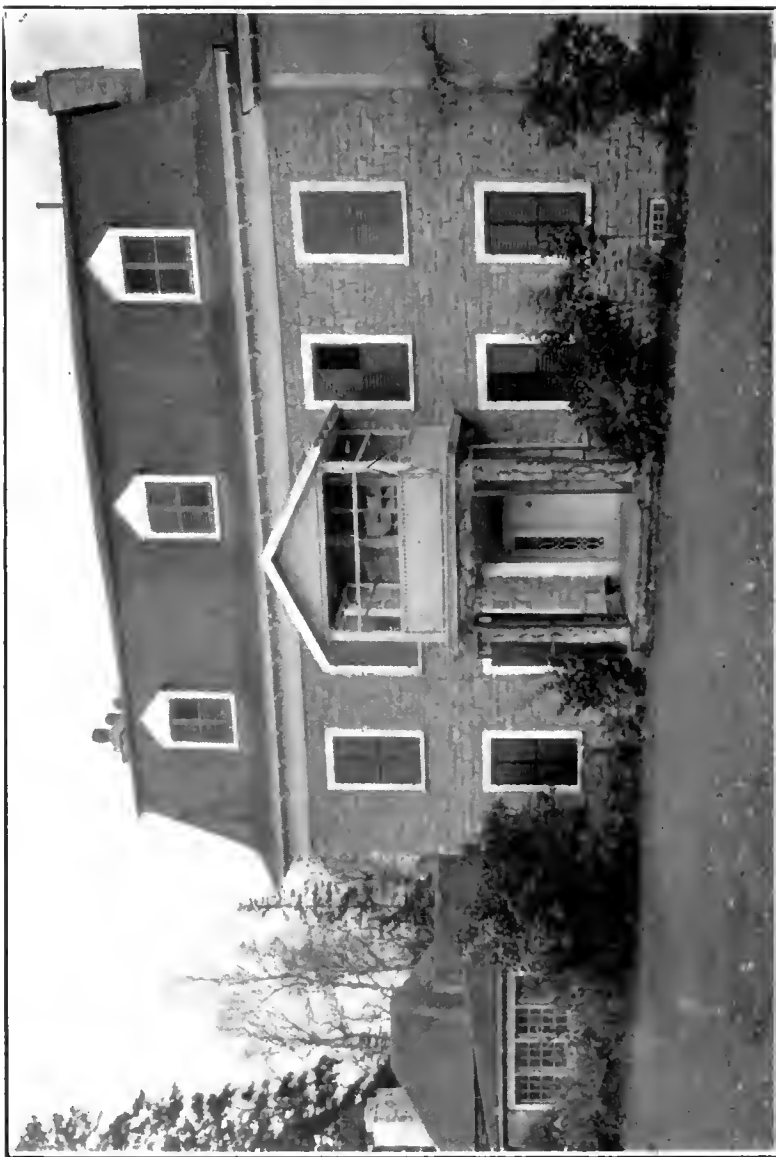
THE NAIRNE OR DUGGAN MANOR HOUSE, MALBAIE

Front of the residence, one of the finest and best preserved of all the old manor houses in the Province of Quebec.



THE NAIRNE OR DUGGAN MANOR HOUSE, MALBAIE

This side of the house overlooks the River St. Lawrence; a superb view is obtained from all the windows and from the large ground-floor verandah.



THE CABBOT MANOR HOUSE, MALBAIE

The Mount Murray seignury was granted to Malcolm Fraser by Governor Murray on April 27, 1762; it remained in the Fraser family until 1860. Colonel Reeve, who had married a Miss Fraser, was the owner up to the time of his death in 1888. John Fraser Reeve, his son, sold the manor of Mount Murray in 1902 to George T. Bonner, and Mrs. Cabbot, daughter of Mr. Bonner, is now proprietor of the seignury and manor house.



THE ALFRED BOULIANE HOUSE, MALBAIE

Two hundred years is the accepted age for this house. The four walls are certainly very old; the roof, however, dates back only fifty or sixty years.



THE ANGERS HOUSE, MALBAIE

This was the birthplace of Miss Angers, more widely known under her "nom de plume", Laure Conan, writer of works held in high esteem throughout the country. She was recognized by the Académie Française

## THE LATERRIÈRE MANOR HOUSE, LES ÉBOULEMENTS

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**W**RITING in 1870, Abbé H. R. Casgrain gave this description of the manor house of Les Éboulements:

“Approached through a majestic avenue, the de Sales manor house is set among high trees, and covered to the roof by climbing plants of most graceful appearance. It is made up of a large main building, flanked by two wings; its thick and solid walls, such as our fathers knew how to build, seem more proper to the bastions of a fortress. Before the porch is a large and beautiful garden, carefully cultivated; at the rear, a deep ravine through which runs a small river which feeds the seigneurial mill, located a short distance away to the left, at the foot of the incline. By the dam a pretty pond is formed, crossed by a narrow way; this little lake, in which trout in abundance may be seen leaping, is shaded by clumps of alder and young birch. Above it, the eye stretches over a cultivated valley, which rises slowly to the foot of the mountains.

“In one corner of the garden, at the edge of a declivity which overhangs a white, murmuring cascade, is a little chapel, half-hidden mid the deep greenery. This pious monument, dedicated to the Holy Virgin, owes its origin to a sad but consoling incident.

“One day, the elder son of M. de Laterrière took it into his head to fire an old French cannon which had been long abandoned. The weapon, imprudently loaded, burst, and a large fragment struck the young man in the side, causing horrible internal injury. He survived only twenty-four hours; but, aided by the prayers of his mother, he prepared himself for death with such edifying sentiments of piety and resignation and expired with such consoling signs of predestination, that his grief-stricken mother, as a sign of gratitude, caused the construction of this chapel in honour of Her to whom she had prayed and by whom she had been heard. Here, at this ‘prie-dieu,’ before the altar from which the statue of Mary extends its arms, she came daily to kneel and pray for her dear child and for other loved ones departed. Yes, pray, pious mother! It is faith which comforted you, which saved you from succumbing under the burden of sorrow. Pray again, pray always; when you have prayed



THE LATERRIÈRE MANOR HOUSE, LES ÉBOULEMENTS

have you not discerned an invisible presence? It was the angel of your child, come to thank you for him, to kiss your forehead, and to lift with his wings the burden which crushed you.

"At the end of the garden, you strike the glade paths of the park; Canadian nature in all her primitive state; rocks, knolls, rifts, steep slopes, declivities, little cliffs. And always can be heard the song of the river which crosses the park, forming rapids, falls, tumbling rivulets, and whose shining robe with its graceful folds, its lacy spray, can be glimpsed through the foliage.

"The *Chemins Perdus* (glade paths), carefully kept, cross the park in all directions, rise, drop, twist, cross, pass rustic benches, retrace their own steps, stray so as to provide you with surprises; almost an hour is required to cover them. Here you clamber to a plateau where, through a gap in the trees, you see a piece of the river and Ile aux Coudres (Hazel Island), which, at your feet, seems like a round table set with white plates encircling it; they are the spotless little houses built on the shores of the island. You are now on the 'Observatory,' at your feet is a wide crevice where the river tumbles in cascade. Go down into this abyss by a narrow, winding path; cast your fly-baited line into the foot of the falls, and you will catch fine trout.

"On the trees are carved numerous names; I read the initials of Sir Etienne and Lady Taché, with the date 1830.

"Further on, a dale planted with fruit trees, where the daisy and the wild violet flourish in the sun and preen themselves before the wavelets of the river which would like to linger here to listen to the song of the birds and the buzz of the grasshopper; this plain, so delightful for dreaming, book in hand, I call the Dale of the Elysian Fields. It is the only place, in this part of the country, where I have heard the song of the grasshopper.

"Now let us go and rest on the gallery of the Citadel; give some repose to our legs, wearied somewhat by having climbed so many hills, and gone down so many slopes. Two stairways lead to it. An exclamation of surprise and admiration escapes involuntarily from your lips on seeing the superb scene which stretches before you; the immense spread of the Saint Lawrence, its isles and, far away, the blue line of the Alleghanies" (1).

(1) *La famille de Sales Laterrière*, p. 47.



THE LATERRIÈRE MANOR HOUSE, LES ÉBOULEMENTS

Note the priceless old furniture and the fine ceiling of the spacious salon.



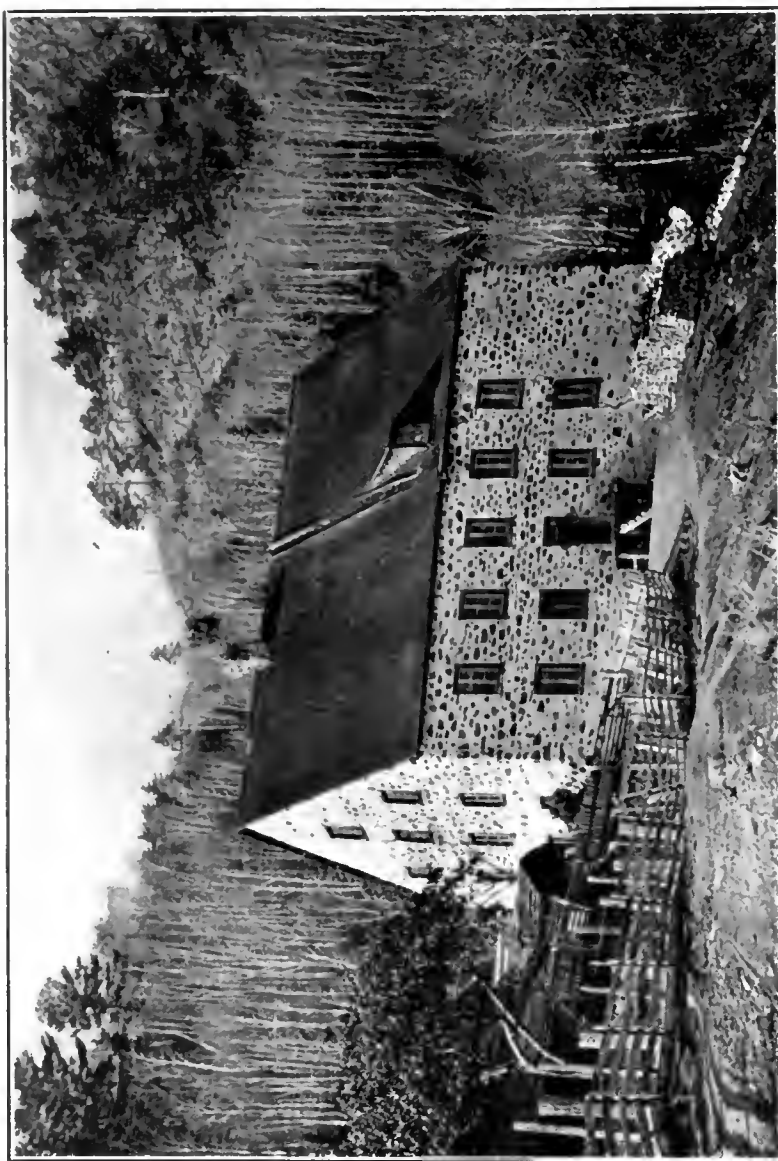
THE SEIGNEURIAL MILL, LES ÉBOULEMENTS

In the distance is the manor house. In its ensemble, the scene carries some recollection of the Swiss countryside.



THE ALEXIS ZOËL HOUSE, LES ÉBOULEMENTS

Storms and earthquakes have not been able to undermine this house, more than one hundred years old. Foreign workmen, engaged on the construction of the church at Les Éboulements, lodged here.



THE BANAL MILL, BAIE SAINT PAUL

The Gentlemen of the Seminary at Quebec built this mill, which is very picturesquely located. Most of the mills built by the Quebec Seminary in their seigneuries were of this type.

## THE CHÂTEAU BELLEVUE, PETIT CAP, SAINT JOACHIM

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THE interesting little *Abeille* (Bee), formerly published by pupils of the Quebec Seminary, gives this description of the Château Bellevue:

"The Château Bellevue, a two-storey house more than one hundred feet long and of fine appearance, stands on Petit Cap, an almost circular hill with a radius of about a dozen arpents, rearing itself 150 feet above the pretty fields which surround it, and belted by a wreath of oaks, maples, elms, and other lofty trees which cover its slopes. From afar, this hill resembles an island, and at one time it probably was; close up, it gives the impression of being entirely tree-covered but for the flag which floats from the summit lending suspicion of human habitation.

"On foot, the hill may be scaled by many paths; vehicles go up the shady avenue on the north-west; first may be seen a fresh and limpid stream, the Bouchard spring; soon, on the face of the country château, may be read<sup>(1)</sup>:

*Eia age nunc salta, non ita, musa, diu.*

"Some one hundred and fifty feet to the south of the residence is the chapel, dedicated to St. Aloysius, patron of youth. It is a pretty little church, with sacristy, fan-lights and spire; inside, its charming altars, decorated with chandeliers of silvered bronze; its pictures, its small organ and, in the time of fêtes, its decoration and ornaments of a beauty and richness not to be expected in such circumstances . . .

"North of the Château, and counterpart to the chapel, is a building of humble appearance, but dear to students, since they make it the scene of their frolics; a large hall formerly used as a billiard room, has been transformed by them into a salon, now nicely decorated, thanks to the liberality of guests; there are held the students' soirées, and occasional banquets."

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(1) The entrance is now on the other side.



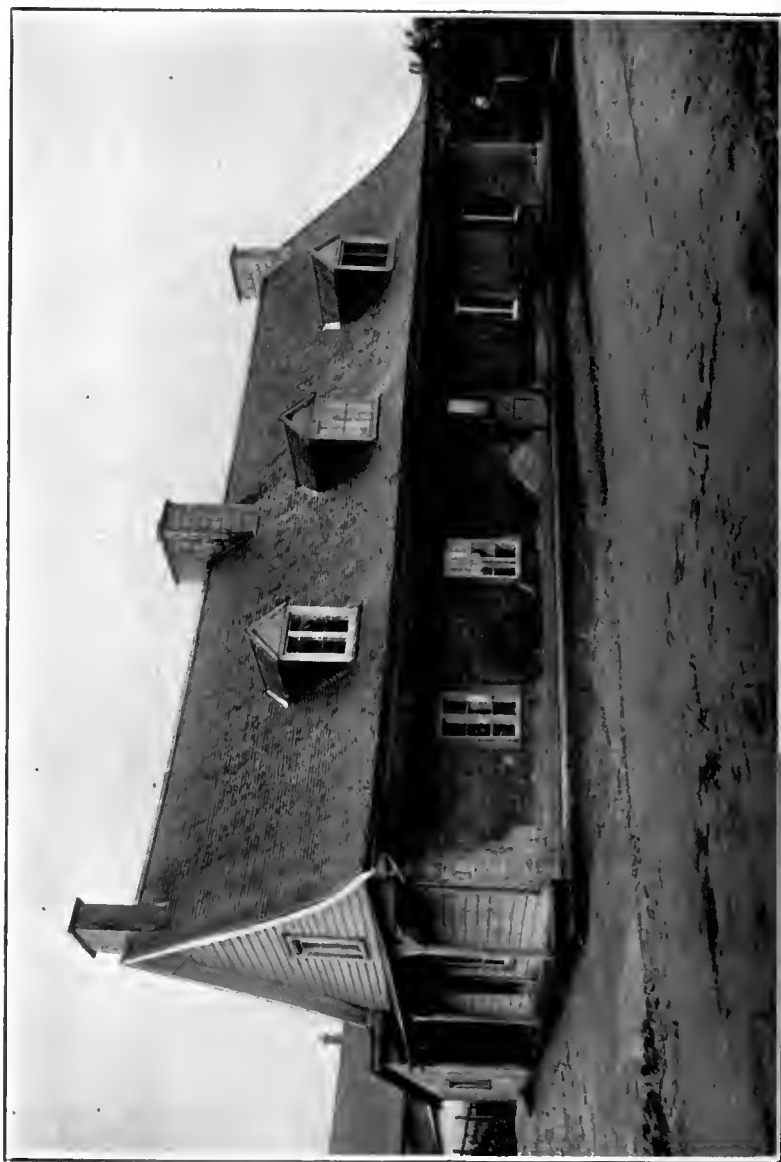
THE CHÂTEAU BELLEVUE, PETIT CAP, SAINT JOACHIM

According to Mgr. Amédée Gosselin, the Château Bellevue was built in 1778 and 1779; at that time it measured 88 by 35 feet. In 1870, it was lengthened by 55 feet to its present dimensions.



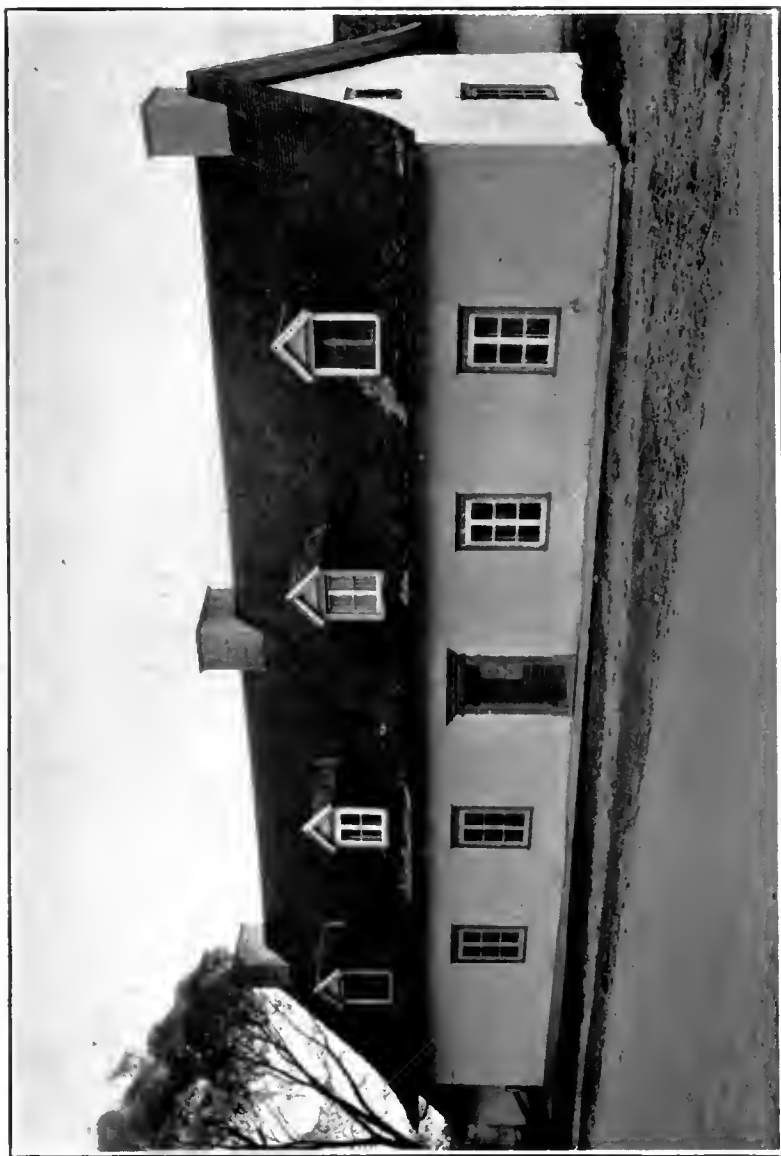
THE CYRAS GOULET HOUSE, SAINT JOACHIM

Near this house, on August 23, 1759, the Rev. René Robineau de Portneuf was, to employ the expression used in the parish register, "massacred," with seven of his parishioners. They were buried at Sainte Anne de Beauré. Tradition says that the English set fire to this house, but that the fire providentially extinguished itself.



THE ÉMILE CÔTÉ HOUSE, SAINT JOACHIM

The real chimney of this house is in the middle; the two others are what the countryside terms false chimneys.

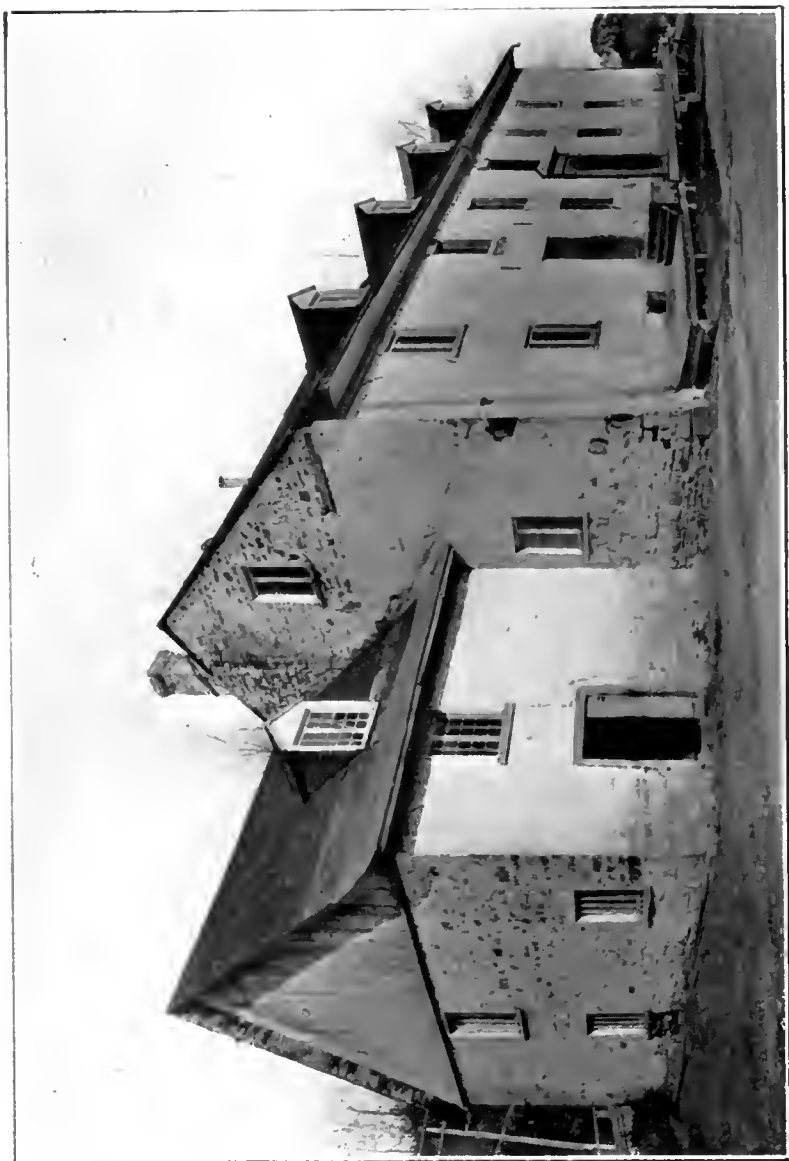


THE PHILIPPE BOUCHARD HOUSE, SAINTE ANNE DE BEAUPRÉ

Note the fine lines of this ancient house, situated near the Rivière aux Chiens. It sheltered several generations of the Paré family; the present occupant is Philippe Bouchard.



THE LOUIS SIMARD HOUSE, SAULT À LA PUCE, CHÂTEAU RICHER  
This house has stood for 125 years. Louis Simard is the present owner.



THE PETIT PRÉ MILL, CHÂTEAU RICHER

Some say this mill was built by Bishop de Laval; others say, by the Quebec Seminary. The accounts of the Seminary show it was commenced in 1691 and continued through the two years following. The Seminary sold the mill in 1871.



THE ÉDOUARD CÔTÉ HOUSE, CHÂTEAU RICHER

An excellent example of the well-preserved residence. Note the little dairy window to the left.



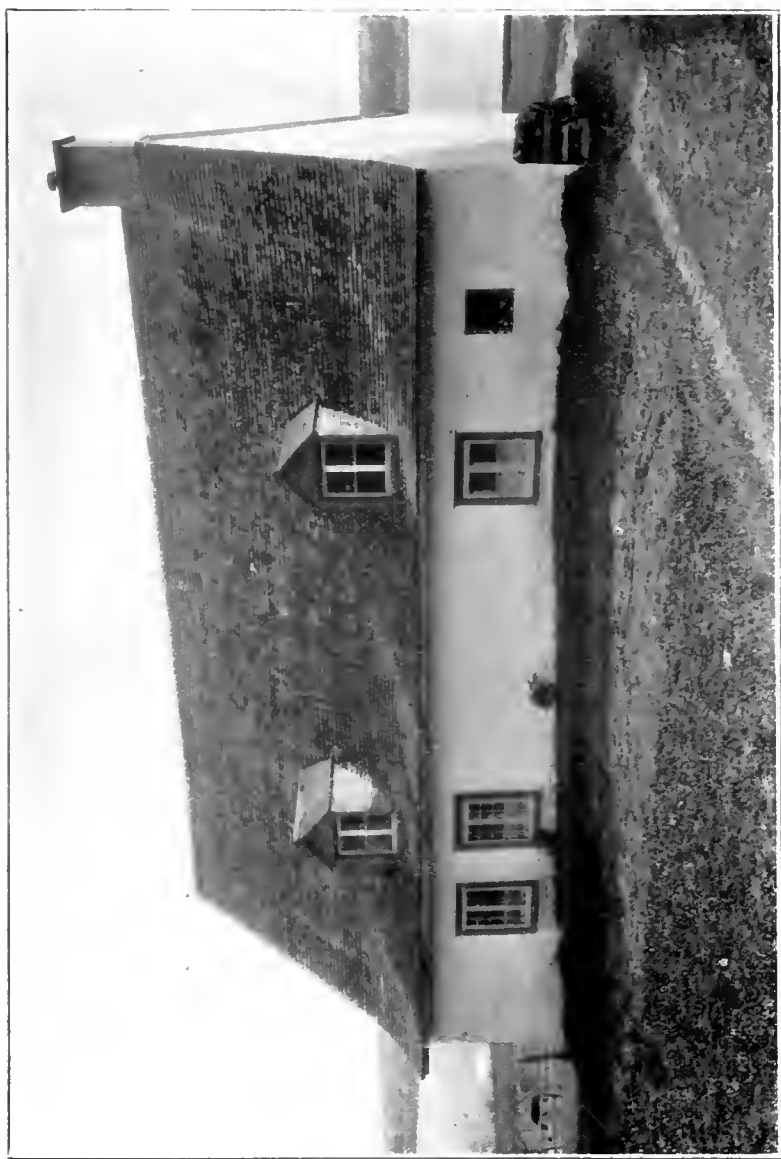
THE HECTOR GAUTHIER HOUSE, CHÂTEAU RICHER

Stone is not lacking at Château Richer; in former times all the houses in the parish were of stone. The inhabitants constituted themselves masons, and achieved fair success, as may be imagined from the appearance of this house.



THE ÉMILE OLIVIER LABERGE HOUSE, L'ANGE GARDIEN

Several generations of the Laberge family lived here. In 1908 Émile Olivier Laberge was presented with one of the medals awarded by the special committee named to pay honour to the oldest families of the Province.



THE JEAN VÉZINA HOUSE, BOISCHÂTEL

Almost two hundred years old, this stone residence, according to a tradition alive in the Vézina family and in the vicinity, was utilized by Wolfe as his headquarters in 1759. The building was lengthened about fifty years ago.



THE JEAN VÉZINA HOUSE, BOISCHIÂTEL  
South-east façade.



THE JOSEPH FRANÇOIS HUOT HOUSE, BOISCHÂTEL

This house, one of the oldest in Boischâtel, was constructed in two sections. Always kept in good repair, it has weathered the years without harm.



THE TRÉOPHILE GRENIER HOUSE, COURVILLE

Part of this residence dates from the French régime; it has been the home of several generations of the Grenier family. One of the prized possessions of the family is a medal granted to it in 1908 by the "Old Families Committee".



THE AIMÉ MARCOUX HOUSE, BEAUFORT

Pierre Marcoux owned this site in 1655; the walls date from that year, perhaps a little before. The house, of stone, was built in two parts; eight generations of the Marcoux family have lived here. There have been but slight changes in the building.



THE CLÉOPIAS GIRARDIN HOUSE, BEAUFORT

Built prior to 1700, the building, to-day owned by the Sisters of the Congregation, has well stood the stress of centuries. The site on which it is built is part of the concession granted by Robert Giffard, seigneur of Beaufort, to Michel Lecourt even before 1655.



THE ERNEST POULIN HOUSE, GIFFARD

This abandoned house, built of wood, begins to feel the weight of years, though it must have been of striking appearance when properly maintained.



THE ADÉLARD ROY HOUSE, GIFFARD

This house was built at the opening of the last century; the oven, set inside the big chimney, projects at the rear. The building stands in the parish of Giffard, which was separated from Beaufort.



THE ADÉLARD ROY HOUSE, GIFFARD

The rear of the house demonstrates that the weight of years is beginning to tell; the dairy, especially, has suffered.



THE ADELARD ROY HOUSE, GIFFARD

A corner in the kitchen of this old house, showing the oven, two wall cupboards, and the solid pine beams holding the upper floor.

## KENT HOUSE, MONTMORENCY FALLS, NEAR QUEBEC

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“**W**HAT’S in a name ?” says the English proverb. Kent House! Here is a name standing for much, yet the Duke of Kent only passed through Kent House, as it were. Besides, the hostelry of Montmorency Falls has been known as Kent House only since 1890, less than forty years.

Let us study the history of Kent House, from the documents gathered by the late P. B. Casgrain. It is the best means of separating the false from the true in connection with the somewhat extensive advertising of this house undertaken, it might be said, with purely commercial object.

General Frederick Haldimand, who was named governor in 1778, found the area around Montmorency Falls so lovely and picturesque that he decided to build a summer residence at this point. On May 9, 1780, the Hon. François Baby bought for him, from the brothers Raphaël and Pierre Vachon, a property some 30 arpents in area, situated to the south-west of the falls, between the river and the cascade, and bounded on the north-east by the south-west limit of the holdings of Ange Garnier. On March 29 and April 10, 1781, Governor Haldimand secured three other pieces of land nearby, so as to enlarge his estate. These different purchases cost him in all 15,750 pounds.

The same year, Governor Haldimand constructed a fine house near the falls. The following year he added a terrace, or species of balcony, resting over eight enormous beams, which jutted almost over the falls themselves. In her *Memoirs*, Madame de Riedesel, nearly gives us to understand that it was at her suggestion that Governor Haldimand ordered the construction of this unique terrace. Haldimand was a bachelor, rich, extremely amiable with the ladies. It is not impossible that he may have built this terrace to please Madame de Riedesel, who was noted for her charms.

In November, 1784, Governor Haldimand left Canada, never to return. His villa at Montmorency Falls seems to have been unoccupied for six or seven years. It was shortly after his arrival at Quebec, in 1791, that the Duke of Kent



KENT HOUSE, MONTMORENCY FALLS, NEAR QUEBEC

leased the Haldimand villa. At that time, the father of Queen Victoria was the intimate friend of the Hon. M. de Salaberry, father of the hero of Châteauguay, and the de Salaberry family then was living at Beauport, scarcely two miles from Montmorency Falls. Undoubtedly, the Duke of Kent leased the house so as to be nearer the de Salaberry family, which he was in the habit of visiting almost daily.

On July 25, 1797, Ralph Ross Lewin, captain in the 24th Regiment of the Line at Quebec and afterwards major, bought the Haldimand house for 600 louis from Anthony Francis Haldimand, nephew of the former governor, who had inherited the property on the death of Sir Frederick at London in June, 1791.

Lewin did not keep his purchase for long. Less than four years later, on March 3, 1801, he sold the estate to Messrs. Mathew Lymburner and Crawford, merchants, of Quebec. These purchasers, unable to complete payment on the property because of financial straits, led to the estate being sold by the sheriff on October 29, 1804, and awarded to Patrick Langan by title of March 22, 1805.

Then the Hon. Antoine Juchereau-Duchesnay, seigneur of Beauport, invoked the right of redemption accorded him by the seigneurial law, and Patrick Langan had to return his acquisition. On September 20, 1805, the Hon. M. Duchesnay made a new grant of the whole Haldimand property to Sir John Johnson, Bart., of Montreal.

After Sir John Johnson, Peter Paterson became proprietor of the Haldimand house and its outbuildings, etc. It is known that Mr. Paterson utilized the falls for the operation of a sawmill of fair size, which employed a good number of workmen. He constructed wharves and booms which still exist, though they are crumbling. Following the death of Mr. Paterson, his enterprises were continued by his son-in-law, George Benson Hall. Now the lumber industry has disappeared from the Montmorency Falls district.

It was toward 1890 that a railway company bought the old Haldimand house and its annexes for operation as an amusement park. It is the company which gave the property the title of Kent House; during the short occupancy by the Duke of Kent, it had been known as Kent Lodge.

There is no basis for believing that the present Kent House dates from 1781. The house has been considerably enlarged, improved and embellished <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> For the history of Kent House, Montmorency Falls, see paper by P. B. Casgrain in the *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*, vol. XIX, p. 3.



THE QUEBEC SEMINARY FARM HOUSE, GIFFARD

One of the best preserved among the houses of the de Beauré district; it has rather the appearance of an old manor house.

THE CHÂTEAU DE MAIZERETS, LA CANARDIÈRE,  
(SAINT PASCAL BAYLON)

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**M**AIZERETS is the château or, if you prefer, the house, at which students of the Quebec Seminary have spent their summers since 1778. Until 1850, the building bore the name of the locality, la Canardière (the wild duckery).

In the *Abeille* (Bee) of March 7, 1850, it is written:

“Maizerets is the name which the pupils of the junior Seminary at Quebec have given to their country house, and the name comes from their hearts.

“Two names, both springing from the same sentiment, shared the votes; one is that of the first bishop of Quebec, founder of the Seminary; the other, that of a man ignored until now, but whose merit has not suffered by obscurity, one who for fifty-eight years did not cease to work for the Church and for the youth of Canada.

“Bishop de Laval constituted the first stone of the Church laid in Canada, or rather in North America; he it was who founded and endowed the Quebec Seminary, and for that he merited eternal gratitude from us as Canadians and as pupils. We would have eagerly seized upon the occasion to demonstrate our gratitude had it not been that the Seminary has forestalled us in giving his name to one of its seigneuries, in instituting a celebration, on April 30, his birthday; and is not that Seminary itself a monument to his glory? Can his name ever be removed from the hearts of those who frequent it, or have frequented it? Besides, should what we owe to one benefactor cause us to forget what we owe to the other?

“M. de Maizerets, who reached New France in 1663, was for many years superior of the Quebec Seminary and died in the building, full of glory and advanced in years, on April 22, 1721.

The de Maizerets property was purchased by the Quebec Seminary on January 14, 1705. The stone house standing at that time was enlarged, and in it was installed a chapel where Mass has been said since 1717.

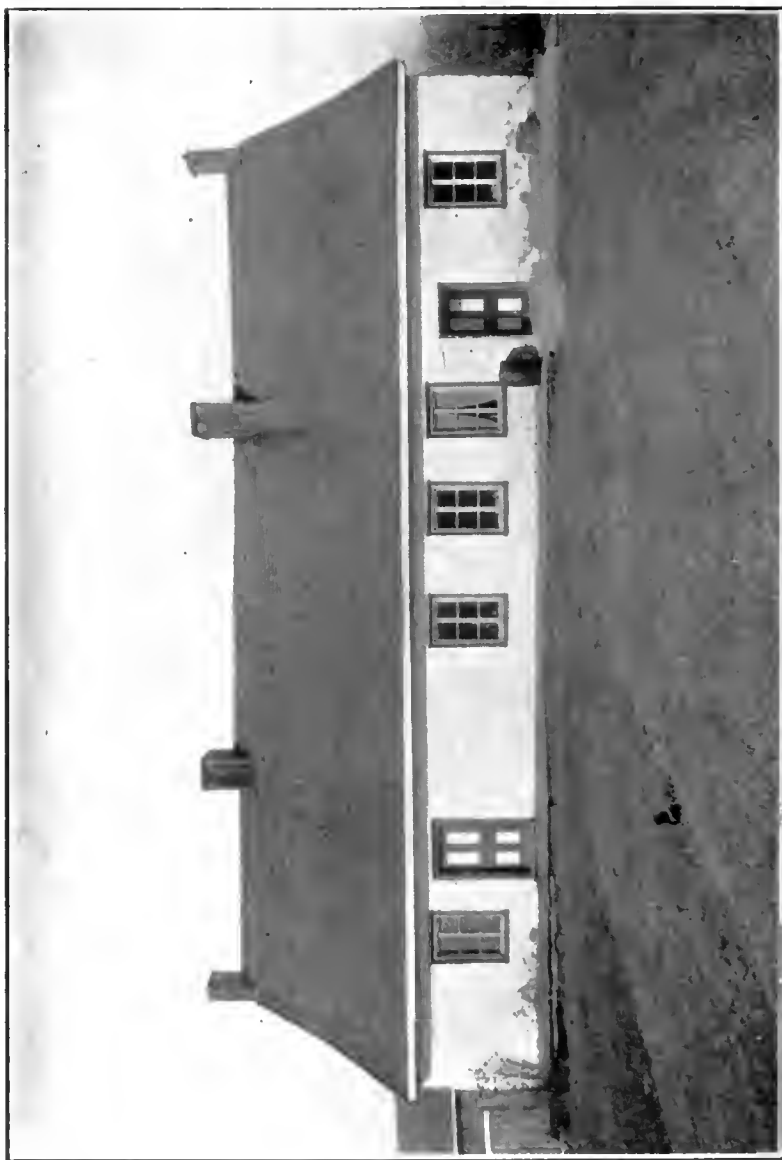
The Americans having burned the Seminary house in 1775, it was rebuilt on the same walls but heightened, then lengthened to meet demands <sup>(1)</sup>.

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(1) Notes by Mgr. Amédée Gosselin.



THE CHÂTEAU DE MAIZERETS, LA CANARDIÈRE (SAINT PASCAL BAYLON)



THE ÉDOUARD GUÉRARD HOUSE, SAINT FRANÇOIS, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

An old house which was lengthened by one-half for the benefit of a family grown more numerous. In the part to the right is an oven and a dairy, with a well. Inside a number of old wall cupboards have been preserved.

## THE MAUVIDE MANOR HOUSE, ST JEAN, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

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THE Island of Orleans was granted on January 15, 1636, by the "Compagnie de la Nouvelle France" to Jacques Castillon, citizen of Paris, who represented a company comprising himself, François Fouquet, Charles de Lauzon, Berruyer de Manselmont, Jean Rosée, Jacques Duhamel, the sieur Juchereau, and Antoine Cheffault de la Renardière.

Between 1662 and 1668, Bishop de Laval succeeded in acquiring almost the entire seignery of the Island of Orleans from the different members of the company formed in 1636. In 1675 Bishop de Laval, who had done much for the settlement of the Island of Orleans, exchanged that seignery for that of Ile Jésus, which belonged to François Berthelot, King's Counsellor. The same year the latter succeeded in securing for his seignery the dignity of a county. In 1712, M. Berthelot, Count de Saint Laurent, sold his seignery of the Island of Orleans to Guillaume Gaillard, councillor in the Superior Council. On November 21, 1752, Canon Joseph Ambroise Gaillard, one of the heirs of the councillor Gaillard, sold to Jean Mauvide, merchant, of St Jean, Island of Orleans, "all land and heritage, comprising the two parishes of St Pierre and St Laurent on the Island of Orleans erected into the county of St Laurent, with all seignorial rights attached to the said land." From that time the Island of Orleans was divided into two seigneuries.

On July 6, 1764, Louis Joseph Gaillard, brother of Canon Gaillard, who had inherited the other part of the seignery of the Island of Orleans, that is, the parishes of Ste Famille and St Jean, sold part of his seignery to James Murray, lieutenant of the 8th Regiment. As for Jean Mauvide, he retained his part of the seignery a little over a quarter of a century. On February 15, 1779, he sold it to René Amable Durocher and his wife, Marie Anne Mauvide.

The impressive manor house still to be seen at the foot of the cliff at St Jean was, undoubtedly, built by Jean Mauvide. But when? From notarial deeds in the possession of Mr. Justice Pouliot, it would seem shortly after 1734.



THE MAUVIDE MANOR HOUSE, SAINT JEAN, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

The walls of the Mauvide manor house still bear the scars left by the cannon balls of the Saunders fleet in 1759. Somewhat neglected for the past fifty years, the manor house is now the property of Mr. Justice Camille Pouliot, of the Superior Court, who has commenced restoration and intends to promote it to its ancient status.



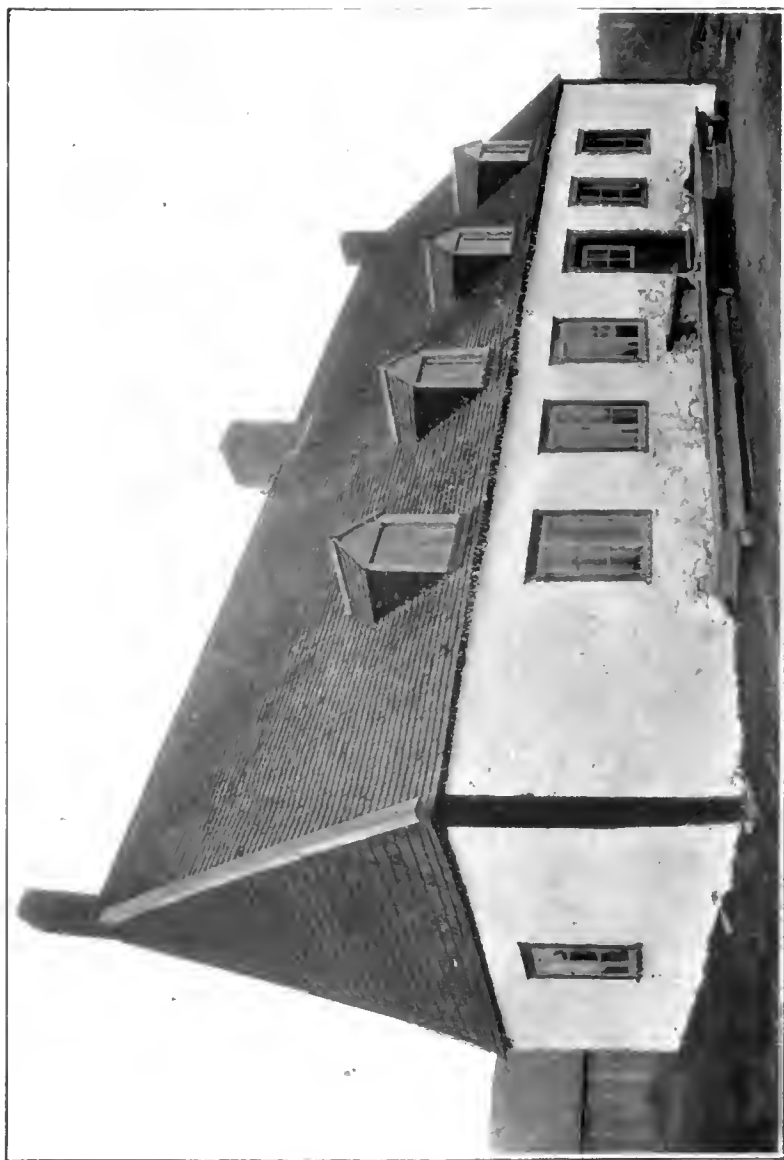
THE GEORGES LARUE HOUSE, SAINT JEAN, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Dating from 1678 or 1680, this house was built by Jean Mourier dit Verron, one of the first settlers in Saint Jean. It later passed to the Larue family, which still owns it. For half a century it was known as the seat of the greatest hospitality on the island. Practically all the great politicians of former generations have been guests of the Larue family here. What interesting confidences the old walls might tell, could they but speak



THE GAUDOSE POULIOT HOUSE, SAINT JEAN, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

A house dating from the French régime, which escaped being burned at the time of the English attack in 1759. The door and window frames, nevertheless, date from the English régime.



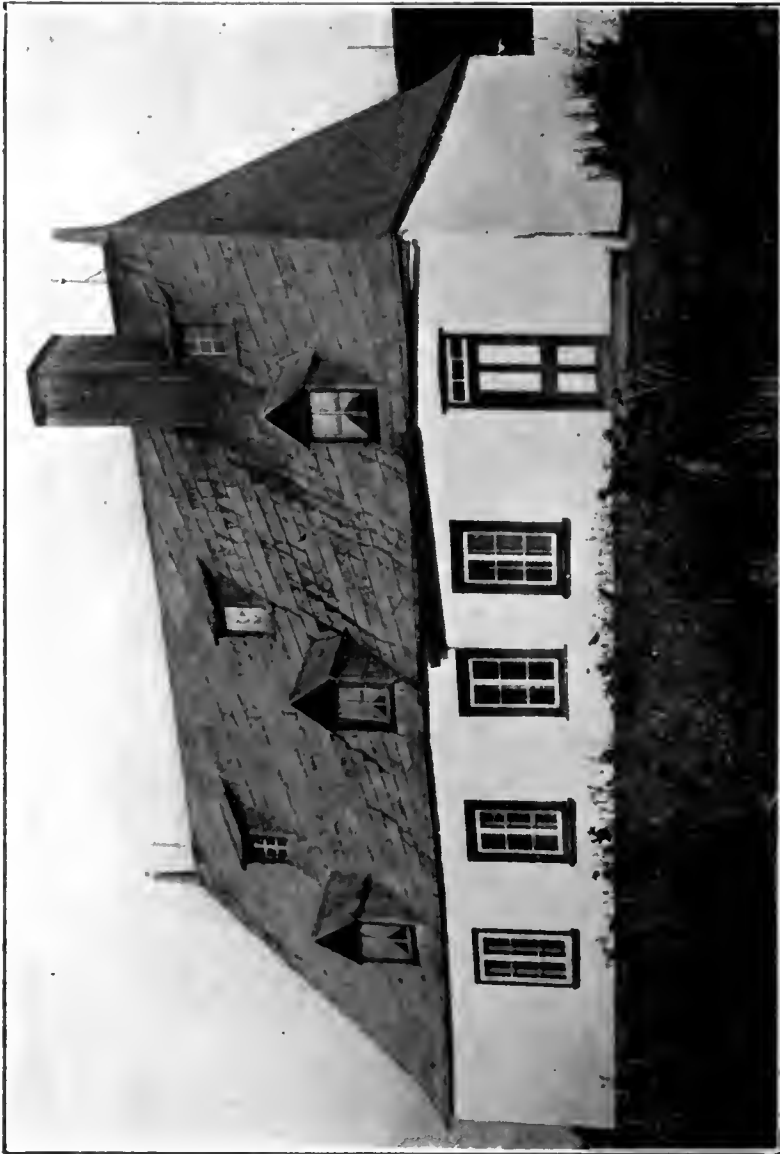
THE THOMAS ALIAS NUMA BLOUIN HOUSE, SAINT JEAN, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Who would contest the proud appearance of this old home of the Blouin family, situated near the Lafleur River ? It was built in two parts, the first going back to the days of the French régime.



THE JACQUES DION HOUSE, SAINT JEAN, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Still another fine old house. It is in excellent condition. The two houses seen in the distance belong to Émile Blouin; the older one is now used as a barn.



THE JULIEN GENDREAU HOUSE, SAINT LAURENT, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Built of stone, with pointed roof, two superimposed attics and tiny dormer windows, this house is about the only one of its kind on the whole island.



THE SAMUEL POULIOT HOUSE, SAINT LAURENT, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

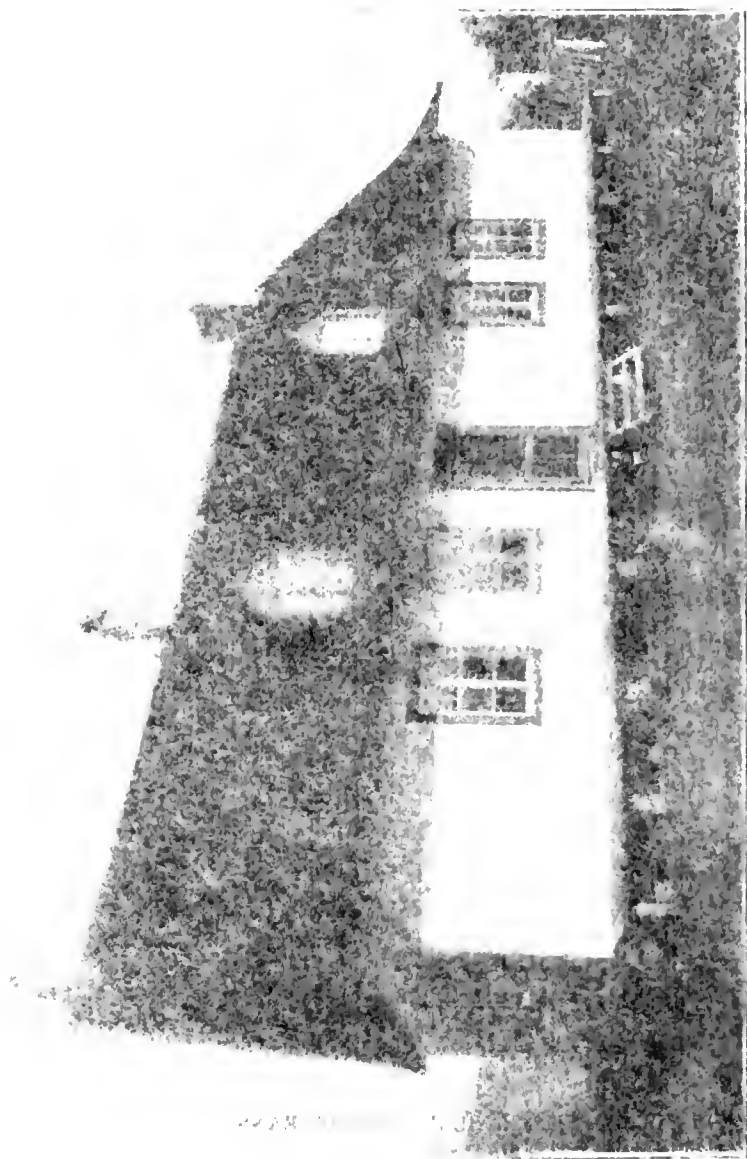
Without a doubt, a relic of the French régime. The Pouliot family have it that the residence was one of the few on the Island of Orleans to escape being burned in 1759. It is well preserved.



THE LAURENT FERLAND HOUSE, SAINT PIERRE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Dating back a century and a half, this house, admirably situated, is still in a state of excellent preservation.





THE LAURENT PIERRE, 100 HILL SAINT PIERRE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS  
 This house, a century and a half old, this house, admirably situated, is still in a state of excellent  
 preservation.

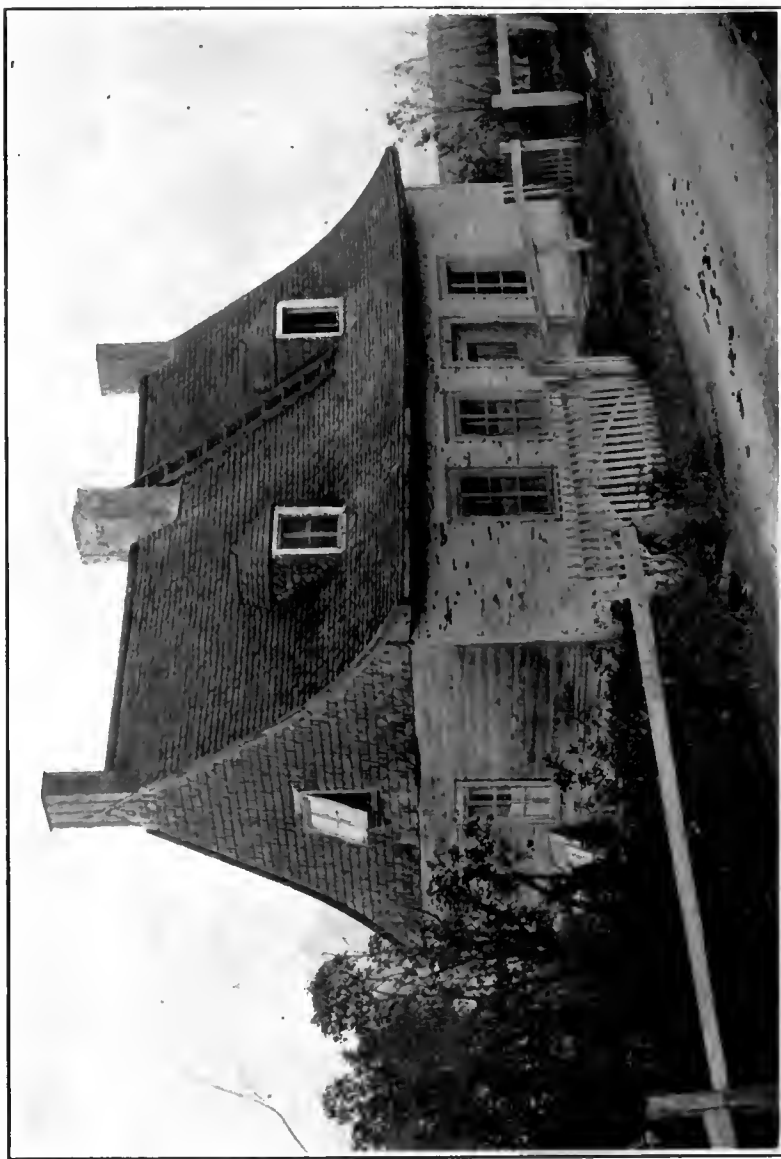






THE FÉLIX GOULET HOUSE, SAINT PIERRE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Part of this house was built under the French régime. It sheltered English troops for several weeks during the summer of 1759. To-day the building serves as a carpenter shop and storage.



THE ULRIC DROUIN HOUSE, SAINTE FAMILLE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

This attractive residence, certainly built without the assistance of any architect, testifies to the sense of beauty innate in the French-Canadians of former years. Its graceful lines make it of striking appearance.



THE ELZÉAR GAGNON HOUSE, SAINT FAMILLE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Several generations of the Gagnon family have lived in this neat old house, still in perfect condition. The Gagnon family was one of those honoured in 1908 by the "Old Families Committee".



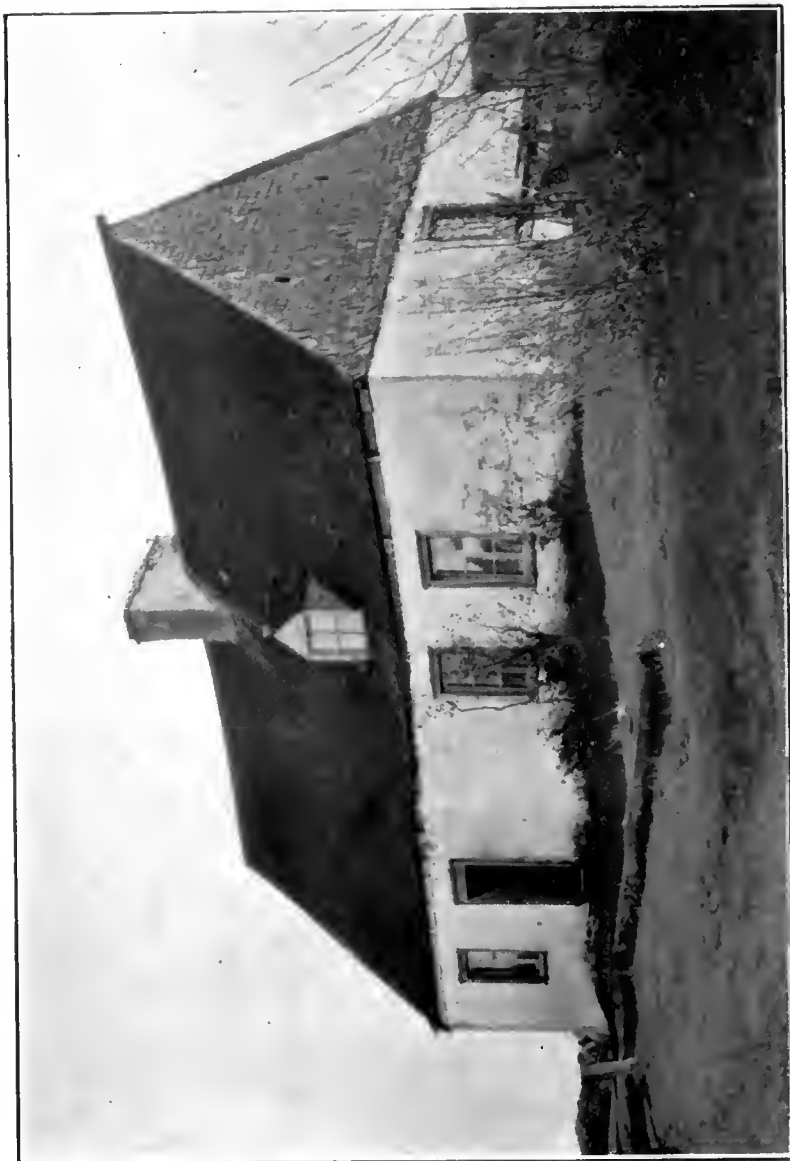
THE POULIN MILL, SAINTE FAMILLE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

This mill, somewhat deformed by age, was built either by seigneur Malcolm Fraser, or more probably by seigneur Poulin.



THE ANDRÉ MORENCY HOUSE, SAINTE FAMILLE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

This old residence, affording surely plenty of space even for a family with twelve or fourteen children, is now used as a storehouse.



THE CYRILLE DROUIN HOUSE, SAINTE FAMILLE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Built under the French régime, this house was a target for the English soldiers on a number of occasions in 1759. English bullets have been found in the attic. Nevertheless, the old building does not seem to have suffered much, and is still good for a number of years.



THE OVIDE MORENCY HOUSE, SAINTE FAMILLE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

It would be interesting to know how many generations of the Morency family were raised in this old house, now used as a shed. The thickness of the walls, built under the French régime, is well shown by the distance between inner and outer door.



THE BANAL MILL, SAINTE FAMILLE, ISLAND OF ORLEANS

Built in 1666 by Charles Pouliot for bishop de Laval, this windmill was undoubtedly the first banal mill constructed on the island. Charles Pouliot, who married Françoise Lemonnier, was the first Canadian ancestor of Mr. Justice Camille Pouliot, of the Superior Court.



THE GARRISON CLUB, SAINT LOUIS STREET, QUEBEC

The original building dates from 1819; it served as offices for the Royal Engineers until their departure with the Imperial troops in 1871. The upper floor and the section to the right are of recent construction. The site belonged to Archibald Ferguson.

## KENT HOUSE, SAINT LOUIS STREET, QUEBEC

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**T**HIS is one of the oldest houses, if not the oldest house in Quebec.

The first owners of the land on which Kent House stands were Louis d'Ailleboust, governor of New France from 1648 to 1651, and his wife, Marie Barbe de Boulogne. M. and Madame d'Ailleboust had a house built on this site shortly after 1650. The house has been enlarged, improved, transformed perhaps, but it is certain that the great part of the foundations and of the first floor walls date back to the vicinity of 1650.

Following the death of Madame d'Ailleboust on June 7, 1665, at Quebec, her property and house on Saint Louis Street passed to the Hôtel Dieu, Quebec. On May 27, 1671, the Ladies of the Hôtel Dieu sold the property to Louis Théandre Chartier de Lotbinière, civil and criminal lieutenant at Quebec. He at once took up residence there. In the autumn of 1679, he embarked for France and never returned to New France again. René Louis Chartier de Lotbinière, who had succeeded his father in the functions of civil and criminal lieutenant, inherited the paternal residence and lived there until his death on June 4, 1709. All of his children were born there.

The Lotbinière house and dependencies were sold by voluntary decree and purchased on March 14, 1713, by Jean Mailloux, architect and contractor to the King at Quebec, for 10,000 pounds. On the death of M. Mailloux, the house went to his son, Vital Mailloux, who did not live in it but leased it to Michel Chartier de Lotbinière, married to Louise Madeleine de Léry, and who was created a marquis by Louis XVI.

On June 1, 1758, Jean Baptiste Nicolas Roch de Ramezay, who had just been promoted King's Lieutenant at Quebec, bought the house, which had, for a number of years, been occupied by the de Lotbinière family. It was M. de Ramezay who had the sad task of signing the capitulation of Quebec on the morning of September 18, 1759. There is ground even for believing that the capitulation was signed in de Ramezay's own house.

Once more the historic house of Saint Louis Street changed



KENT HOUSE, SAINT LOUIS STREET, QUEBEC

hands, on August 23, 1763, when Madame de Ramezay, under authority given by her husband, sold it to John Bondfield, merchant, of Quebec. One year later, August 4, 1764, Bondfield resold to James Strachan, a London merchant, acting for himself and for the London house of Greenwood and Higginson. On October 24, 1777, the Hon. Adam Mabane, judge of the Court of Common Pleas, became proprietor of the old d'Ailleboust house.

In August, 1791, the Duke of Kent arrived in Quebec and shortly after leased Judge Mabane's house for 90 louis per annum. He must have occupied it for three years with the beautiful and mysterious Madame de Saint Laurent. In his Memoirs, M. de Gaspé speaks several times of dinners given by the Duke of Kent in his fine residence on Saint Louis Street. After the departure of the Duke of Kent from Quebec in 1794, the house in which he had lived changed owners and tenants many times. In 1802, the Rev. Jacob Mountain lived there.

As owners, there was first Miss Isabella Mabane, sister and heiress of Judge Mabane, then the Hon. John Craigie, member of His Majesty's Executive Council (December 23, 1809), Peter Bréhaut (June 17, 1816), the Hon. Judge Jean Olivier Perreault (May 1, 1819), the Hon. Henri Elzéar Duchesnay, John Jones, Mrs. Alexandre Lindsay, O'Neil, the hotelkeeper, the Hon. Thomas McGreevy, the Hon. Jean Thomas Taschereau, etc., etc. Price Brothers are the present owners.

As may be seen, Kent House is impregnated with historic souvenirs of all kinds. Thus it deserves careful preservation<sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> The complete history of Kent House will be found in the *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*, vol. XIX., p. 3.

## THE MONTCALM HOUSE, ST. LOUIS STREET, QUEBEC

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**D**ID Montcalm die in the little house at the corner of St. Louis and des Jardins Streets, Quebec, as is affirmed by Carrel's *Guide to the City of Quebec* and numerous other publications?

There is no written proof that Montcalm did die in that house and the popular tradition, which links the great soldier with this relic of old Quebec, does not date back more than a century.

Nevertheless, the false Montcalm House of St. Louis Street has an interesting past, worthy of the light of day. With Kent House, situated a few steps away on the other side of St. Louis Street, it is a remnant of heroic times in Quebec.

To-day the Montcalm House embraces two distinct dwellings adjacent to one another. That on the western side is of modern construction and bereft of historical significance. The little house on the corner alone goes back to the days of the French régime.

The site on which stand the Montcalm House and its neighbour belonged to the Ursuline Nuns of Quebec. It was granted on November 30, 1674, to one François Jacquet dit Langevin, slater. The deed of grant gives him forty-six feet of frontage and forty-five feet depth. Jacquet had neither time nor means to build a house on his site, and he gave it to the eldest daughter of Pierre Ménage, a carpenter, who lived by the St. Charles river. On the site, in 1677, Ménage built a one-storey stone house, twenty-five feet long and thirty feet wide. Thus the Montcalm House is just 250 years old.

It has been said that in 1759 the house in question was the property of the surgeon Arnoux and that, on September 13, 1759, the dying Montcalm was conveyed there. Arnoux never owned the house at the corner of St. Louis and des Jardins Streets. There is, moreover, no written proof that he ever lived there. In addition, the late P. B. Casgrain established that in 1759 Arnoux owned and lived in a house, on St. Louis Street it is true, but further up on the north side.



THE MONTCALM HOUSE, SAINT LOUIS STREET, QUEBEC

In 1759, the sieur Jean Baptiste Prévost was proprietor of the supposed Montcalm House. Successively, the owners were: Joseph Gaspard de Léry, 1761; Alexandre André Victor de Léry, lawyer, 1800; Xavier Roch Tarieu de Lanaudière, lawyer, 1802; Antoine Ovide Tarieu de Lanaudière and Marguerite Tarieu de Lanaudière, 1813; Philippe Aubert de Gaspé, author of *Les Anciens Canadiens*, 1815; William Millar, schoolmaster, 1824; Marguerite Tarieu de Lanaudière, 1825; Joseph Lagueux, lawyer, 1826; Edouard Glackemeyer, notary, 1844; Gilchen, 1866; Lawrence Stafford and William Venner, 1884; Thomas Moisan, etc., etc.

The little house at the corner of St. Louis and des Jardins Streets perhaps never witnessed the Marquis de Montcalm within its walls, none the less it deserves a visit from all tourists. Its thick walls, its big and solid joists, its remarkable interior woodwork, its closets sunk into the walls, etc., make it a typical and very interesting residence of the French régime <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> See paper by P. B. Casgrain in the *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*, vol. VIII, p. 329.



THE TOURANGEAU HOUSE, QUEBEC

Built between 1770 and 1775, this house, well known to all habitués of Saint John Street, Quebec, is thought to be the last of the old residences *à l'italienne* on this thoroughfare. Its thick walls, pointed roof, little dormer windows, and huge chimney represent a type of construction no longer seen even in Quebec. It is still in the hands of the Tourangeau family; for a long time A. G. Tourangeau, mayor of Quebec in 1870, lived here.

## THE HOUSE OF CHIEF JUSTICE SEWELL, ST. LOUIS STREET, QUEBEC

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**S**ITUATED at the corner of Saint Louis and d'Auteuil streets, Quebec, near the Garrison Club, and now occupied by families of officers of the garrison, is a house of striking attraction. Few examine it without inquiring as to its history. This house was built in 1803 and 1804, and for almost thirty-five years was the home of Chief Justice Jonathan Sewell.

In his *Monographies et Esquisses*, Sir James M. Lemoine says of this house:

"Its spacious rooms, its wide corridors, its great staircases have witnessed many fêtes, and also many periods of mourning in the time of the Sewells; later, many acrimonious discussions on public welfare. There, in 1819, died Janet Livingstone, a native of New York, widow of Chief Justice William Smith. Justice Sewell himself passed away there on November 12, 1839; then, on May 26, 1849, his widow, outstanding for her personal characteristics and the charm of her conversation. What incidents, what political changes have been debated there, settled there! What stormy sittings of the Executive Council those rooms have seen!

"An habitué of the Château Saint Louis, Mr. Sewell divided his hours between study of jurisprudence and of parliamentary law, his judicial sittings, and the peaceful joys, fairly numerous for him, of the domestic hearth. This model *pater familias* seemed absorbed in the duties and responsibility of paternity; seeing to the baptism, raising, establishment, or giving in marriage of his numerous and fine family (he was the father of twenty-two children, the majority of them of remarkable physique). To several of his sons he left rich farms and houses, at St. Foy, on the little St. Charles river, at Berthier, at Charlesbourg."

Under the Union, on November 11, 1854, the government bought from the Sewell heirs, for \$20,000, the house so long occupied by Jonathan Sewell. The intention was to establish a nautical school there. In 1859 the Post Office was opened in



THE HOUSE OF CHIEF JUSTICE SEWELL, SAINT LOUIS STREET, QUEBEC

the building, and remained there until 1865. Governor-General Monck also had his offices there from 1860 to 1865.

In 1867, at the time of Confederation, the Sewell house was pressed into service as offices of the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Narcisse Belleau, and was also made to house a couple of provincial government departments. For several years the Cabinet Council met in the large apartment on the second floor. Later, in 1885, when the Lieutenant-Governor and the civil departments moved to the new Legislature building on Grande Allée, the Sewell house was occupied by the eccentric Count de Premio Réal, consul general for Spain in Canada. On the opening of a cavalry school in 1888, the Sewell house was occupied by officers of that branch. Since that time it has been the home of families of officers of the garrison.

## THE VALLÉE HOUSE, ST. ANNE STREET, QUEBEC

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ONE of the oldest and most interesting houses in Quebec. Martin Boutet, friend of the Jesuits, lived there. Boutet came to Canada shortly after 1640. A surveyor by profession, he became professor of mathematics at the college just established by the Jesuits at Quebec.

Ever since his arrival in New France, the Intendant Talon had dreamed of creating a marine academy or school at Quebec. He discussed the project with his minister and even ordered the first step toward putting the proposal into execution, by arranging that Martin Boutet should instruct such young men as wished to become pilots.

Martin Boutet, it is almost certain, was the first professor in marine science to teach the explorer Louis Jolliet. Professor at the Jesuits' college, singer in the parish church, director of the little choir in the growing community, Boutet had the thought of establishing himself near his friends the Jesuits. He bought a site at the corner of St. Anne and du Trésor Streets, and built himself a stone house of fair dimensions for those days.

A retaining wall which divides the Vallée house into two equal parts permits the belief that it originally served as an exterior wall. Thus, Boutet would have built that part of the Vallée house giving on to the court. Later, Boutet's house must have been extended toward St. Anne Street.

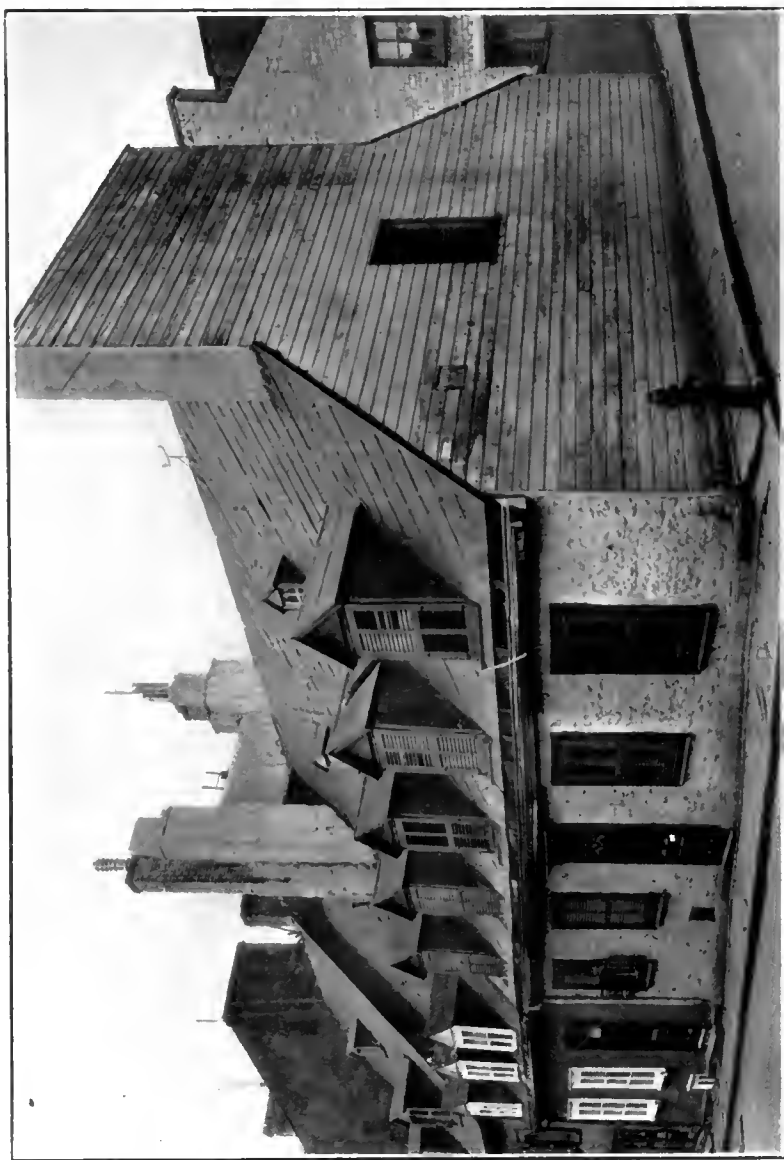
In any event, the present Vallée house was bought in 1818 from Michel Berthelot, notary, by Joseph Roy, ancestor of the Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau, who was prime minister of the Province of Quebec. The Hon. Mr. Chauveau himself occupied the house for a good number of years. The late Dr. Arthur Vallée lived there some forty years. Madame Vallée still lives there with her son, Dr. Arthur Vallée, professor at Laval University. Dr. Vallée's children constitute the sixth generation of the same family occupying the ancestral home.

From notes compiled by the Hon. Mr. Chauveau, it appears that the Vallée house was occupied during the first



THE VALLÉE HOUSE, ST. ANNE STREET, QUEBEC

years of the English régime by Colonel Fleury Deschambault, the Hon. M. de Saint Ours, and the Hon. Gabriel Elzéar Taschereau. Malicious gossip, even, would have it that, during his stay in Quebec, the Duke of Kent visited the house many times, attracted by the bewitching eyes and the charms of Miss Betsy Green, an American who lived there.



THE MCKENNA HOUSE, CÔTE DE LA SAINTE FAMILLE, QUÉBEC

Claude Dubreuil, a notary, in 1720 built this residence, one of the most typical and best preserved of the old houses in the city. After several changes in ownership, it passed to the McKenna family, which retained it for a good number of years. It was purchased by the Quebec Seminary on November 4, 1926.

## THE QUEBEC SEMINARY

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“ON March 26, 1663,” says Mgr. Amedée Gosselin, “by official instrument dated from Paris, bishop de Laval founded the Quebec Seminary. ‘There shall be raised and trained,’ he said, ‘young clerks who shall appear proper to the service of God and to whom, to that end, shall be taught proper administration of the Sacraments, the method of catechising and of apostolically preaching moral theology, the ceremonies, Gregorian plain chant, and other things appertaining to the duties of a good ecclesiastic.’”

“To avoid harming the Jesuits, who were already directing a well-organized college, the founder opened only a senior seminary, among the first pupils being Germain Morin, Louis Jolliet, C. A. Martin, Pierre de Francheville, and Louis Soumande. On October 9, 1668, upon the formal wish of Louis XIV. and of Colbert, bishop de Laval opened a junior seminary, designed for the education of French and Indian children. The King and his minister imagined that, by this mingling, it would be easier to Gallicize the Indians. Experience proved they were wrong.”

Of the Seminary buildings standing to-day, which were those constructed in the time of bishop de Laval?

For a reply to the question, Mgr. Amédée Gosselin once more is invoked:

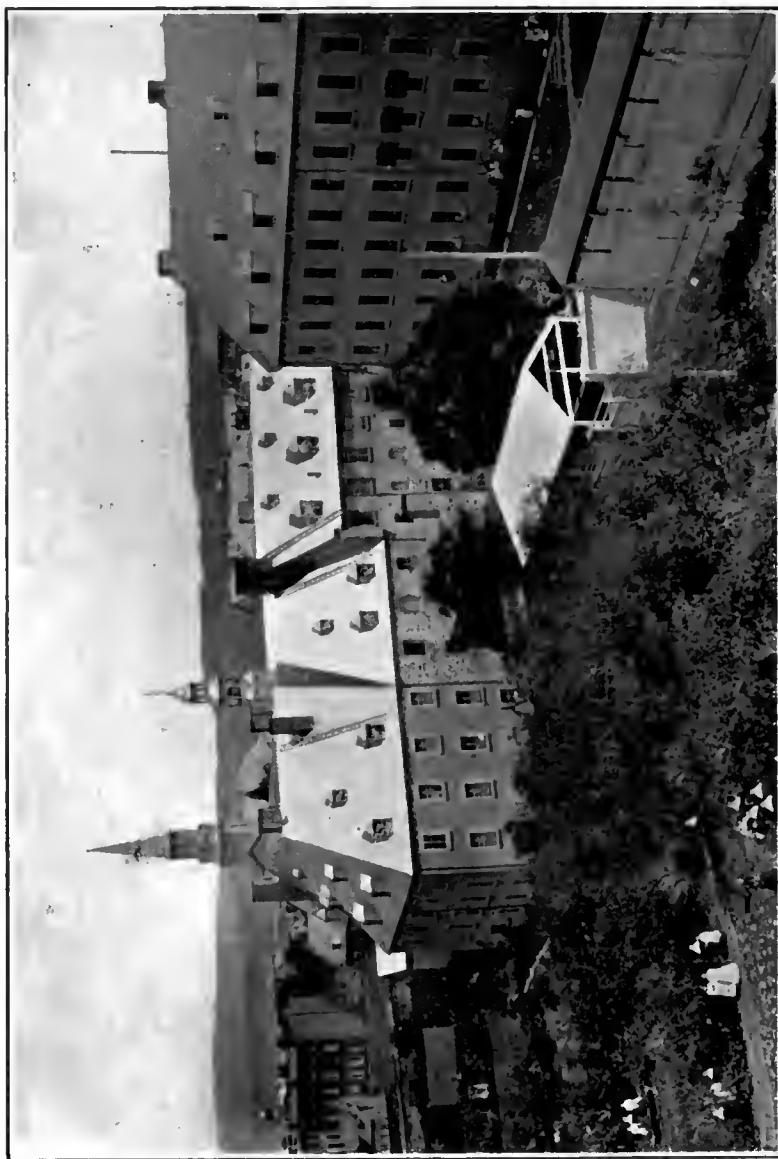
“The main block, known also as the ‘Procure’ wing, was built between 1678 and 1681. Only the lower portion, the cellars and ground floor, date from that period; the upper part has been rebuilt and remodelled on several occasions following conflagrations. This building, long reserved to priests and seminarists, was known as the Grand Seminary.

“The junior seminary, adjoining the main pile, was built between 1692 and 1695. It was rebuilt on the same spot after fires in 1701 and 1705. This section was widened by some ten feet on the courtyard side in 1820-21.

“The section holding the entry dates only from 1822.”



THE QUEBEC SEMINARY

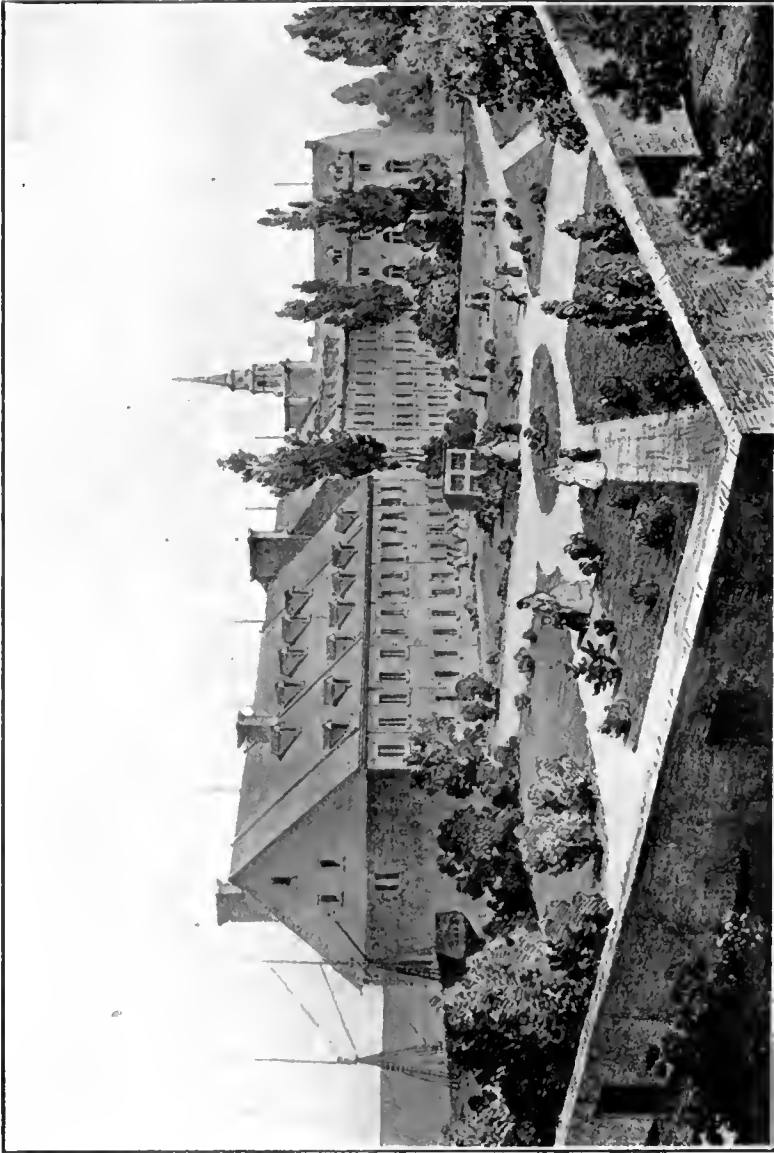


THE URSULINE MONASTERY, QUEBEC

This view gives a fair idea of the first buildings of the old Monastery of the Ursulines. Peering over the roof of the convent may be seen the open bellry of the ancient chapel, restored but with the interior preserved in its original condition.

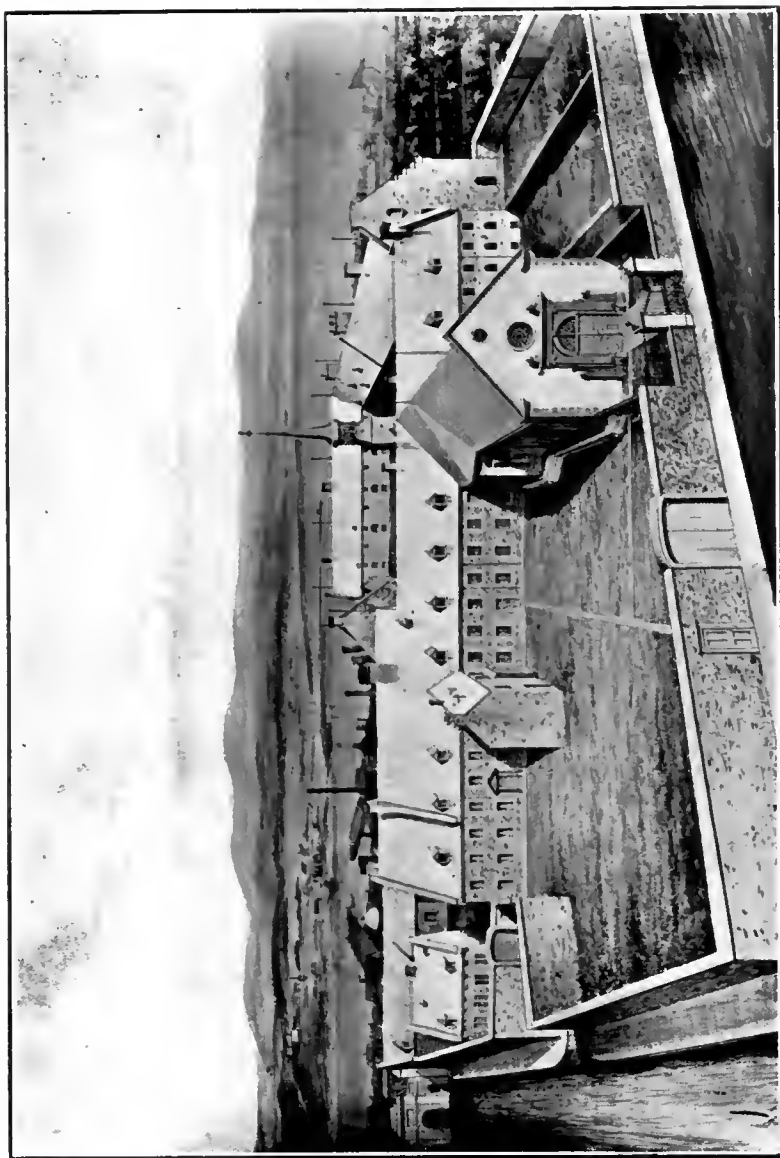


THE URSULINE MONASTERY, QUEBEC  
One of the long corridors of the convent.



THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, QUEBEC

The General Hospital is the sole religious institution at Quebec which has escaped damage by fire. The first building dates back almost to Champlain. Here were carried most of the French and Canadian wounded during the battles of the Plains of Abraham and of Sainte Foy. A considerable number of the English wounded also were tended here, the Sisters giving to all the same attention and devotion.



THE HÔTEL DIEU, QUEBEC

This view is scarcely recent, but it gives an excellent idea of the layout of the old buildings and of the surrounding walls.



THE TURNER HOUSE, THE ESPLANADE, QUEBEC

About one hundred years old, this residence, formerly occupied by the late Hon. Richard Turner, is truly Canadian in form and appearance, except for the forged iron gallery. And yet the house is the counterpart of dozens of buildings to be seen on the famous Prado at Havana.

## THE MONTCALM HOUSE, ON THE RAMPARTS, QUEBEC

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“ON the Quebec Ramparts, north of the Cape,” P. B. Casgrain wrote in 1902, “is a group of dwellings, composed of three separate houses, stone-built, of two stories, contiguous and alike in the uniformity of their façades, covered with woodwork of the same hue. They face north-east over the estuary of the St. Charles River, and enjoy an admirable view over the bay and coast of Beauport and the vast horizon traced by the bluish undulations of the Laurentians. That, it is said, is the house Montcalm occupied.”

That is correct. Montcalm did occupy the house on the Ramparts, and it is from that house that he left on his last campaign which was to bring him death and immortality.

The first proprietor of the site of the Montcalm house was one Saint Michel. He obtained the grant on July 8, 1724, from the Gentlemen of the Quebec Seminary, proprietors of the Sault au Matelot fief.

Later, Nicolas Lanoullier, councillor of the Superior Council and already owner of adjacent property, bought the St. Michel grant. A little before 1737, Lanoullier built a large stone residence, with wings at both ends. He was soon in financial difficulties, and his house was sold by authority of justice on November 28, 1752. Joseph Brassard Deschenaux was the purchaser.

Montcalm passed the winter of 1757-58 at Montreal. It was during his stay in that town that he decided to lease the Brassard Deschenaux house at Quebec. He had never visited the house, but a plan of the interior was sent to him at Montreal, and he found it to his taste. The house is often mentioned in the correspondence of Montcalm with Bourlamaque. On April 9, 1758, Montcalm wrote to Bourlamaque:

“It is by him (Cadet) that I received the letter from the Intendant I now send you; you will see its object. I am replying and thanking him, and I am asking him to study, with M. Deschenaux, the means to be taken to establish communication between the two apartments, although he has



THE MONTCALM HOUSE, ON THE RAMPARTS, QUEBEC

lived in this house. . . . I am quite agreeable to accept the arrangement you think it best to make."

A little later, Montcalm wrote again to Bourlamaque:

"However, as soon as I am sole master of this house and M. Deschenaux is no longer there, I do not know who will care for it in my absence. . . . I shall be obliged to have a caretaker, or to install someone there. Kindly speak of this to Arnoux, who will conceive some means of remedying this inconvenience."

On May 4, 1758, Montcalm once more speaks to Bourlamaque of his future home:

"I find that, at Quebec, my lodging will be too fine and too large; I subscribe to your arrangement for my house as being better than I would have made, for I know little of it, and I send with this letter one for M. Deschenaux, which I have left open."

In the spring of 1758, Montcalm was unable to reside in the house he had leased. The Carillon campaign kept him far from Quebec until December, 1758. Finally, on December 22, 1758, Montcalm left Montreal to locate at Quebec.

How many months did the Marquis de Montcalm live in the house on the Ramparts? Less than six months, for from the end of June, 1759, he was obliged to be in camp on the heights of Beauport so as to be amid his troops. It is true that he returned on July 18, 1759, but he himself tells us that he returned to Beauport on July 26.

It has been written that, after the battle of the Plains of Abraham, Montcalm, mortally wounded, had himself taken to the house on the Ramparts. That is mere supposition. No contemporary authority speaks of it.

After the fall of Quebec, the Montcalm house, which had suffered considerably from bombardment, was repaired and used to lodge a number of English officers.

Between 1767 and 1769, the Montcalm house was subjected to considerable transformation. The long house which the hero had occupied was replaced by the three two-storey houses to be seen to-day. What remains of the old house? It is certain that the doors and windows in the front of the present houses do not correspond with those of the old house.

In 1901, Mr. P. B. Casgrain, from whom all the details given here are borrowed, visited the Montcalm house in company with the late Judge Baby. These two well-informed archeologists then compiled what might be termed minutes covering their visit. They said:

"The four stone-vaulted cellars of the most westerly house are in perfect preservation, and they have the same four openings on to the Ramparts. The interior of the building above having been restored in modern style, there is not a trace of its original state or of French workmanship; and the vacant lot of about forty feet square, situated to the south-west, is now covered by the triangular house and outbuildings belonging to the notary, M. Parent.

"The middle house, by its ceilings, its beams, its wood-work, panelling, and iron work on the ground floor, has an old-fashioned appearance which, at first sight, indicates French workmanship; part of it has been preserved; but, remembering the known reconstruction of the three houses which took place within the ten years that followed the death of Montcalm, it may be said that he can never have seen any of this new work, and that the appearance of antiquity may be attributed to the old French craftsmen who continued their work in the style of the day. At that date, there could hardly have been many English artisans or carpenters available.

"In rebuilding, the gable walls must have been preserved. Those on the court side remained, as is indicated by the style of the cut stone casements, the symmetry and uniform height of the windows, both in the central house and in the wing, or kitchen, in the rear, as well as by the enormous ceiling beams resting on the walls."

In conclusion, here is a list of the proprietors of the Montcalm house since 1759. In 1761, Joseph Brassard Deschenaux, owner since 1752, sold to Germain Leroux. Then followed Alexander McKenzie, May 5, 1768; Messrs. Grant, brothers, January 24, 1769; the Honourable George Allsopp, August 1, 1775; John Jackson, January 20, 1799; Archibald Campbell, October 13, 1822; John Munn, September 18, 1838, etc., etc. <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> For more details regarding the Montcalm house, see paper by P. B. Casgrain in the *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*, vol. VIII., pp. 225 and 227.



THE JOSEPH BLAIS HOUSE, SAINTE FOY, NEAR QUÉBEC

This venerable house is built on lines characteristic of Canadian manor houses of the old régime. It will be noted that some of the front windows still display their panes eight by six inches, just as in the time of the French. The main section of this house was built a little before 1747. In 1792, it was lengthened by twenty feet. It has been owned by the Blais family since almost one hundred years.

## THE JESUITS' HOUSE, SILLERY

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**T**HIS, it is believed, is the oldest house in Canada. The mission of St Joseph de Sillery had been founded with the view of rallying the Indians and of working for their conversion.

In July, 1637, with the aid of a sum of twelve thousand pounds that the Commandeur de Sillery caused to be transmitted to the Jesuits, Father Le Jeune started construction of a house in Sillery cove. Nine months later, April 14, 1638, Fathers Le Jeune and Dequen left the residence at Quebec to occupy the new house. It appears that two Indian families comprising twenty persons received the hospitality of the Fathers during the first months of their stay at Sillery. The patience of the missionaries must have been put to the test from time to time, for the Indian at that time was no ordinary guest!

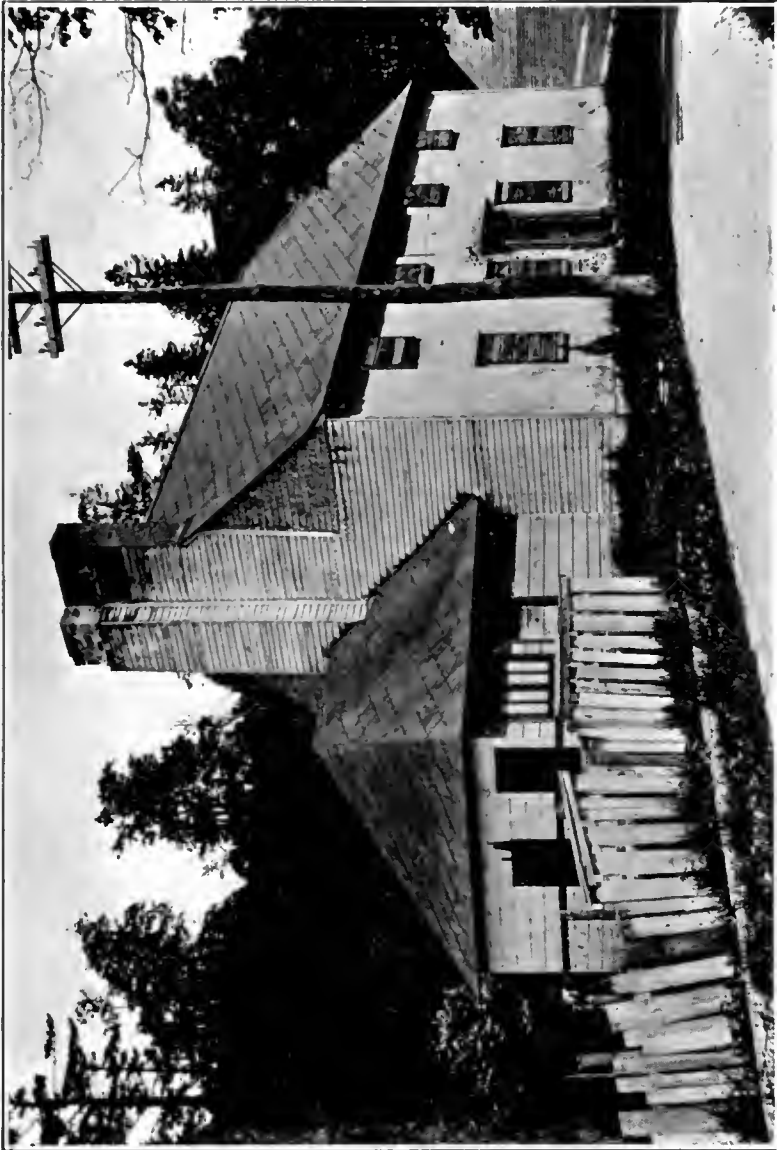
It was in this house that the good Father Massé died on May 12, 1646, at the age of 72 years. He was buried in "the new chapel of St. Joseph, not yet completed." The chapel in question has long disappeared, but the remains of Father Massé are still, after almost three centuries, in the spot where they were laid in May, 1646, a few steps from the front of the old Jesuit house.

In the *Journal des Jésuites* under the date of June 13, 1657, may be read:

"At two o'clock in the afternoon, the Sillery house, the chapel, and all the buildings were reduced to ashes by fire, which took in the kitchen chimney, and which the wind carried everywhere."

The thick walls of the Sillery house had remained standing and the building was reconstructed with the same walls in the summer of 1657. Briefly, the foundation and the walls of the Jesuit house date back to 1637, and almost all of the interior to 1657.

In 1869, the Abbés Laverdière and Casgrain, while making searches in the vicinity of the chapel which had disappeared but whose foundations still existed, discovered



THE JESUITS' HOUSE, SILLERY

the remains of Father Massé. The following year, the residents of Sillery raised a monument over the bones of the Jesuit Father.

This monument and the old Jesuit house attract, in the tourist season, visitors somewhat acquainted with the history of the early days of New France.

It may be added that in 1924 the Dobell family, owners of the Jesuits' house, gave the building to the government of the Province of Quebec, which has charged the Historic Monuments Commission with its care <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Regarding the Jesuits' house and the St. Joseph residence, see *Une paroisse historique de la Nouvelle-France, Notre-Dame de Sainte Foy*, by the Rev. Canon H. A. Scott.

## THE CHÂTEAU BIGOT, CHARLESBOURG

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THE Château Bigot, at Charlesbourg, has been created entirely by popular imagination. The novelists Marmette and Kirby have amplified the legend, and the majority of those who have read *L'Intendant Bigot* by Marmette, or *The Golden Dog* by Kirby are convinced that the infamous Bigot chose this isolated spot on Charlesbourg mountain for the commission of his crimes. Bigot, perhaps, never set foot in this so-called château. In any event, it is absolutely certain he was never proprietor, nor even tenant, of the 'château' which bears his name, and of the land surrounding it. It suffices to glance over the titles to the property to be convinced of that.

The Château Bigot is situated in the parish of Charlesbourg, which forms part of the old seigneurie of Notre-Dame des Anges, conceded to the Jesuit Fathers by the Duc de Ventadour on March 10, 1626.

On April 28, 1659, Father Ragueneau, in his capacity of procurator of the Jesuit Fathers, granted to Françoise Duquet, wife of Jean Madry, an area of land in the seigneurie of Notre-Dame des Anges with seven and a half arpents of frontage by four leagues in depth. That concession was made as an arrière-fief.

Jean Madry was drowned while going to Three Rivers on July 26, 1669. Françoise Duquet remarried one year later, on September 14, 1670, becoming the wife of Olivier Morel de la Durantaye, captain in the Carignan regiment.

On October 29, 1672, the Intendant Talon accorded to M. Morel de la Durantaye a seigneurie of two leagues frontage and depth. That is the de la Durantaye seigneurie. On July 15, 1674, M. Morel de la Durantaye received another seigneurie comprising three leagues of frontage by two leagues in depth. That is the seigneurie of Kamouraska. M. Morel de la Durantaye busied himself with colonizing his two seigneuries, and never worked his wife's arrière-fief in the seigneurie of Notre-Dame des Anges. Moreover, when, on October 28, 1718, Françoise Duquet, widowed for the second time, sold her



THE CHÂTEAU BIGOT, CHARLESBOURG

arrière-fief of Grandpré to Guillaume Gaillard, there was still no house erected upon the land.

In his purchase, Gaillard served as prête-nom for Michel Bégon, Intendant of New France. The latter built a house, planted fruit trees, etc., etc. When, on October 12, 1753, the estate of M. Bégon sold the Grandpré arrière-fief to Guillaume Estèbe, the notary Saillant gave the following description of the house built by the Intendant:

"A house situated on the said arrière-fief at the spot called the Mountain, in the parish of Charlesbourg, built of stone with two stories and attic, of fifty feet frontage by thirty feet in depth, more or less, consisting of a kitchen where there is an iron bracket by the chimney, to one side an oven encircled by an iron bar and a humble sifting mill in a room, closets, garrets and cellars, all furnished with windows and doors bearing locks; behind the house is a small vegetable garden, and further away a large orchard planted with several fruit trees and surrounded by a picket fence. Item: south-west of the said house is a barn fifty feet long by thirty feet deep, more or less, and a stable of similar size, the whole built on stone foundation."

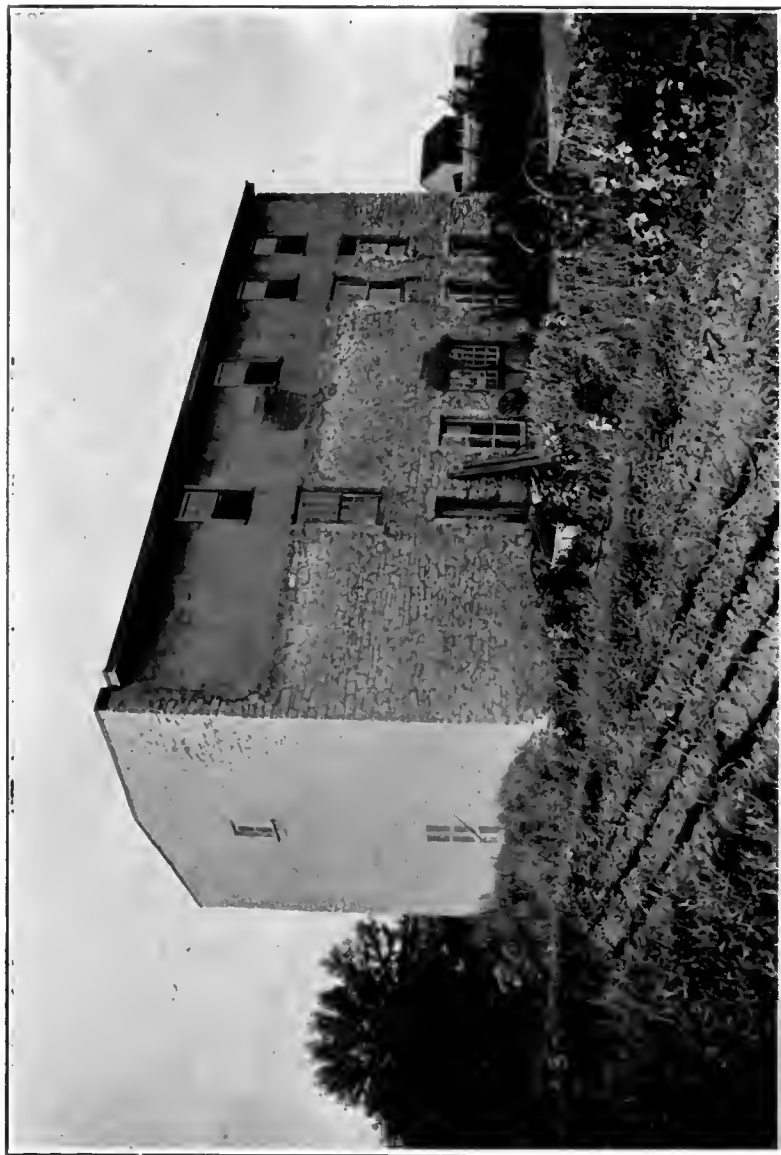
Such is the famous Château Bigot!

But, to continue its history up to the conquest. Guillaume Estèbe kept the Château Bigot for four years. On September 8, 1757, he sold it to François Joseph de Vienne, His Majesty's store keeper at Quebec. He, in turn, kept it seven years. On September 8, 1764, his agent, the Abbé Pressart, sold it to William Grant, a Quebec merchant.

As may be seen, the name of Bigot does not figure in any of the documents just cited. To repeat: Bigot never had any connection with the so-called château at Charlesbourg. Intendant Bégon was proprietor of the Grandpré arrière-fief for thirty-five years. People quickly change names. There is but little difference between Bégon and Bigot. That, it is believed, is the origin of the tradition which has it that Bigot was proprietor of the château which bears his name <sup>(1)</sup>.

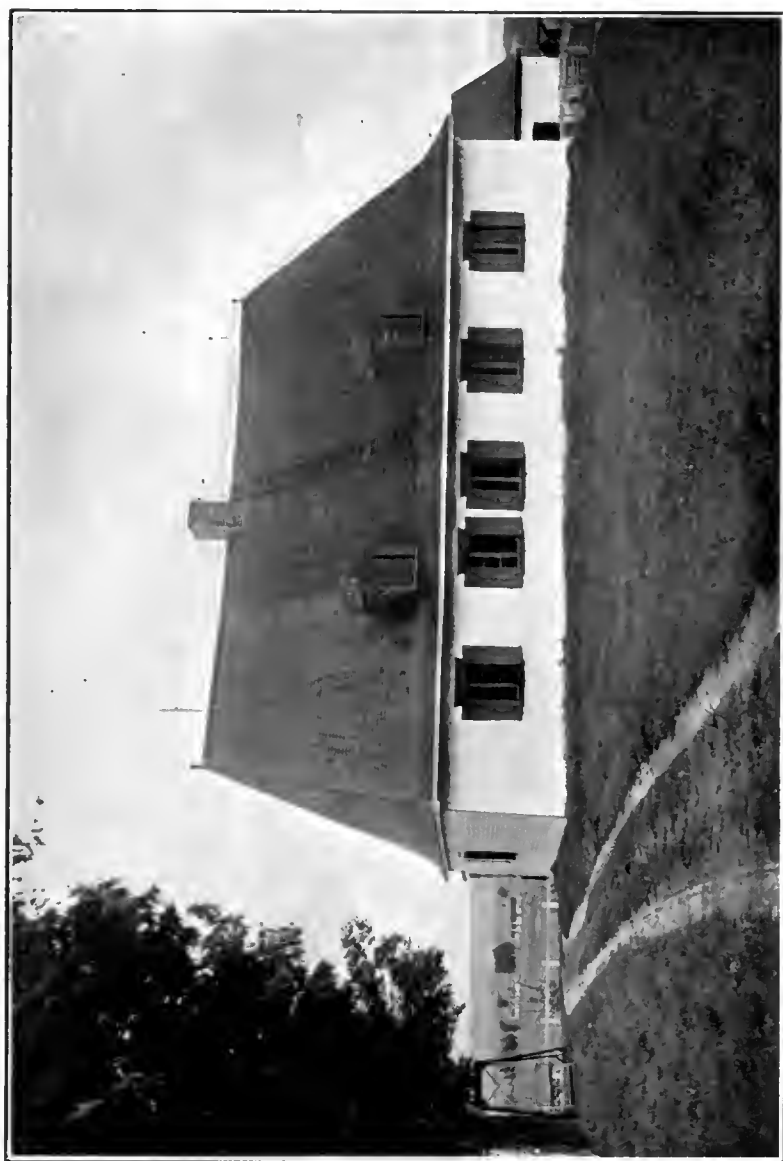
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<sup>(1)</sup> On the Château Bigot, see a paper by M. F. X. Maheux in the *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*, vol. IX, p. 194.



THE JESUITS' BANAL MILL, CHARLESBOURG

This mill certainly dates back to the French régime, for the Jesuits, proprietors of the seigneurie of Notre-Dame des Anges, in which the parish of Charlesbourg is included, built no mills in any of their seigneuries after 1759.



THE VILLENEUVE HOUSE, CHARLESBOURG

In 1908, Mr. Louis Villeneuve obtained what was known as the "old families" medal by establishing that his family had lived on the same land at Charlesbourg since 1684. To date, eight generations of the Villeneuve family have followed one another on this property—a fine example of fidelity to the ancestral domain.



THE VILLENEUVE HOUSE, CHARLESBOURG  
South-East façade.



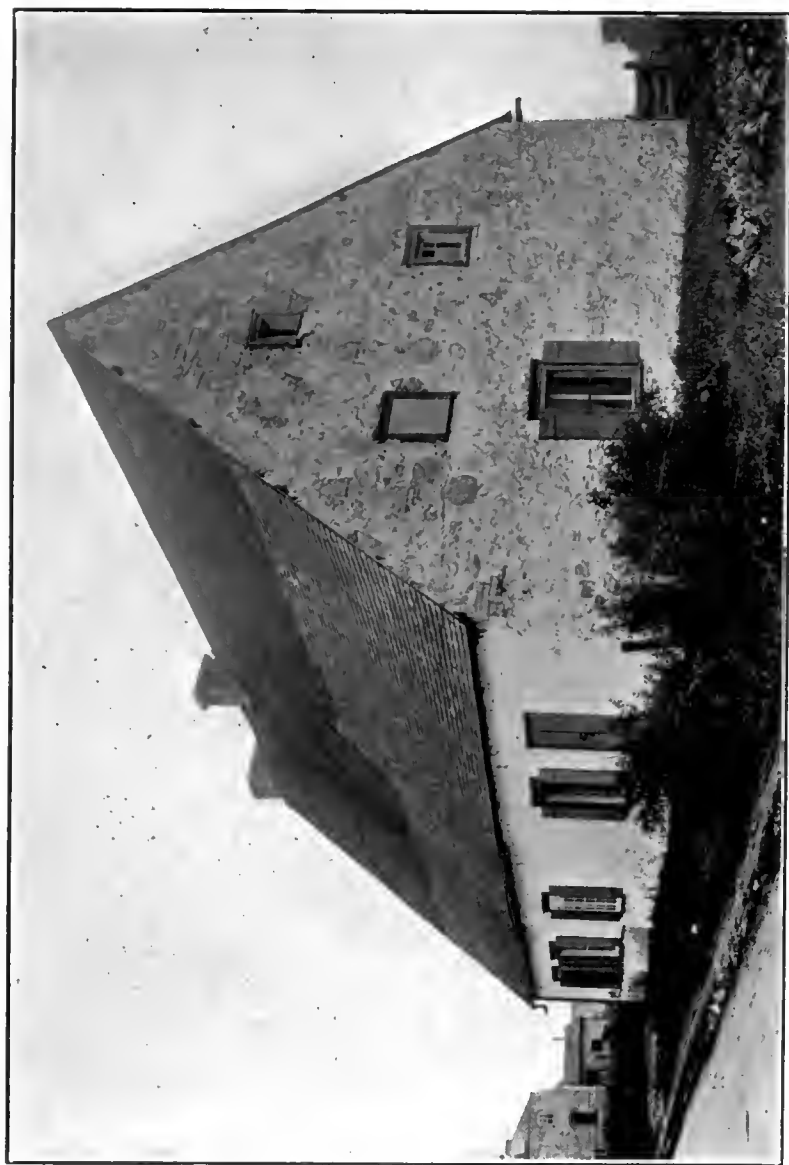
THE LARUE MANOR HOUSE, NEUVILLE

The first seigneur of Neuville, Jean Bourdon, was attorney-general of the Sovereign Council. The seigneurie passed to the d'Avesnes des Meloizes family. The Larue family inherited it from the Deschesnaux family.



THE DÉSIRÉ AUGER HOUSE, NEUVILLE

Note the year graven on the stone door frame: 1775. A strikingly neat house, in excellent condition.



THE NARCISSE DENIS HOUSE, NEUVILLE

This house has stood for at least two centuries. It is still in good condition. The successive owners have been enlightened enough to preserve it in its original state. The house now belongs to Mr. Eugène Béland.

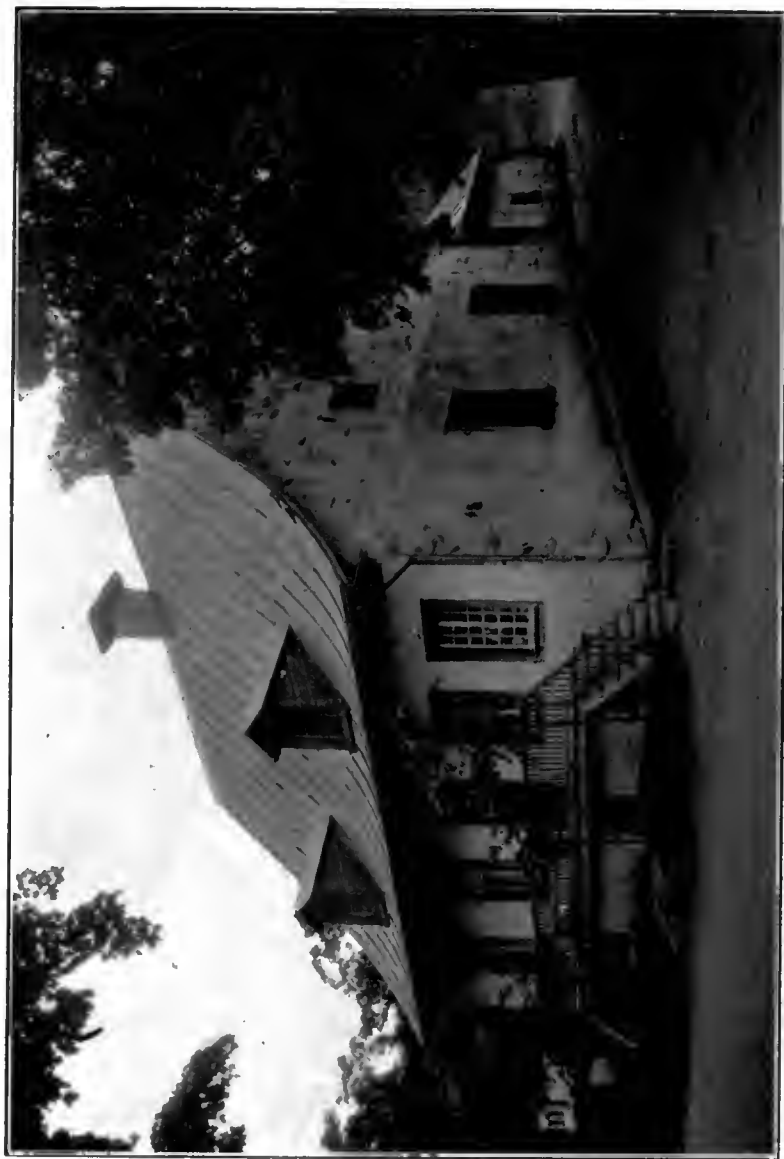


THE DENIS HOUSE, NEUVILLE  
Unique oven in the summer kitchen of the Denis house.



THE Fiset House, NEUVILLE

An inscription carved above the door gives the date of the construction of this house: 1801.



THE SIMON DUSSAULT HOUSE, LES ÉCUREUILS

The house is in almost the same condition as it was a century and a half ago. True, the shingle roof has been replaced by a ribbed roof covered with sheet metal; but the small-paned windows have been carefully preserved.



THE ALLSOPP MANOR HOUSE, CAP SANTÉ

George Allsopp played a somewhat important role during the first years of the English régime in Canada. He purchased the seigneuries of Jacques Cartier and d'Auteuil.

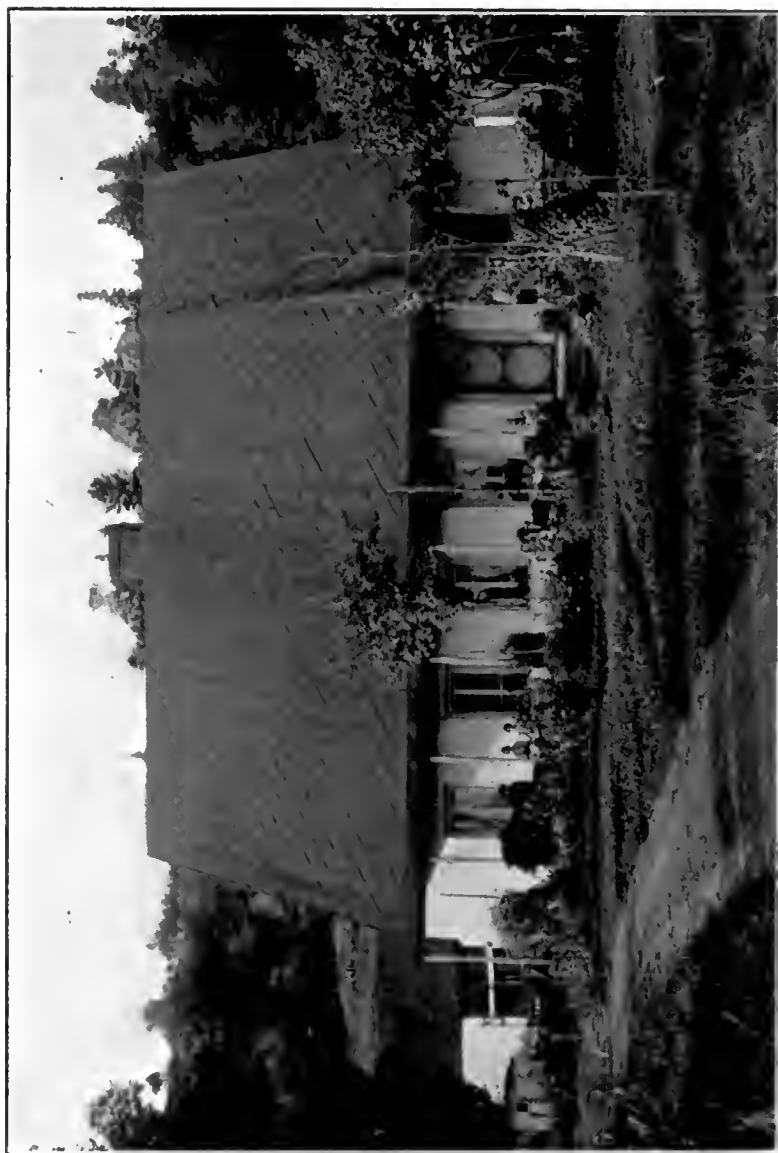


THE ALLSOPP MANOR HOUSE, CAP SANTÉ  
Rear view.



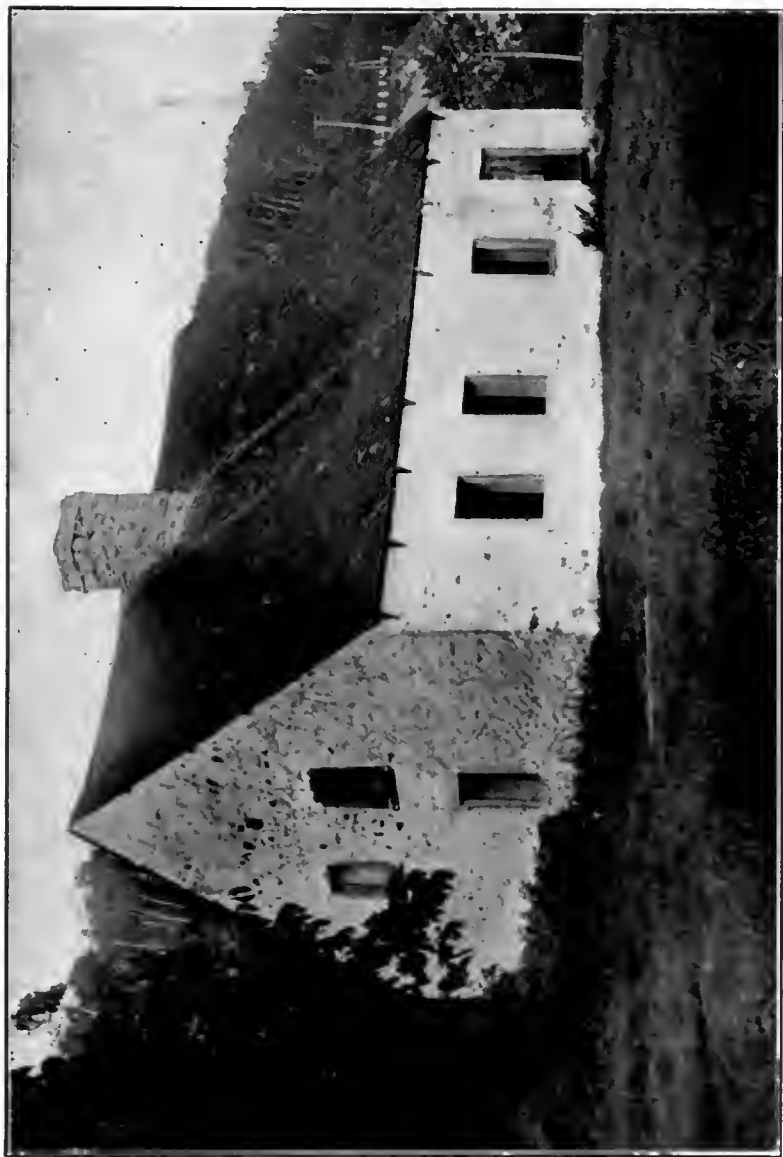
THE THIBAUDEAU HOUSE, CAP SANTÉ

Ancestral home of the Honourable Isidore, Elie and Rosaire Thibault. Towards 1870, it became the property of their brother in law, Mr. Odilon Roy, lawyer of Quebec. He restored the house and made it his family residence during the summer season. In 1898, the house was bought by Mr. Quetton de Saint-Georges.



THE CÔME MARCOTTE HOUSE, CAP SANTÉ

This house is more than one hundred years old. It is still in good condition.



THE SAMUEL GERMAIN HOUSE, CAP SANTÉ

The Hon. Mr. Justice Rivard has written feelingly of "*La maison condamnée*". The apertures in this house are not boarded to the extent of the house's mentioned in Mr. Rivard's book, for six or seven openings give entry to it and its history is not equally as sad. Where are the old residents? Not gone to the States but compelled to desert the house by the construction of a railroad nearby.



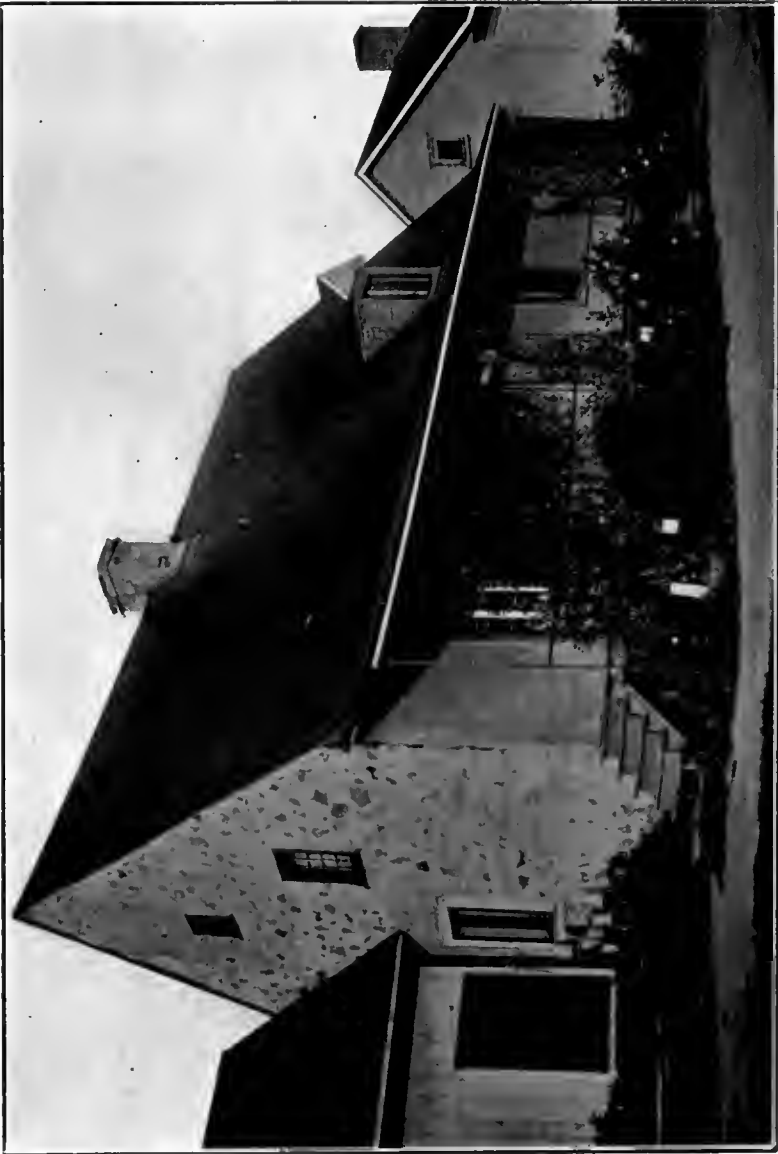
THE JOSEPH CHEVALIER HOUSE, CAP SANTÉ

How old does this house look ? The original birth certificate is carved on its façade: 1696.



THE ALPHREDISTE LAMOTHE HOUSE, CAP SANTÉ

This house dates back to the French régime. Certain improvements have been imposed which have only slightly robbed it of its character. The verandah and the dormer window in front are relatively recent.



THE JOSEPH GUILLEMETTE HOUSE, CAP SANTÉ

One of the oldest houses in Cap Santé. The lone dormer window in the roof was contrived long after the construction of the house.



THE JOSEPH RICHARD HOUSE, PORTNEUF

An old wooden house. The trees around enhance its charm.



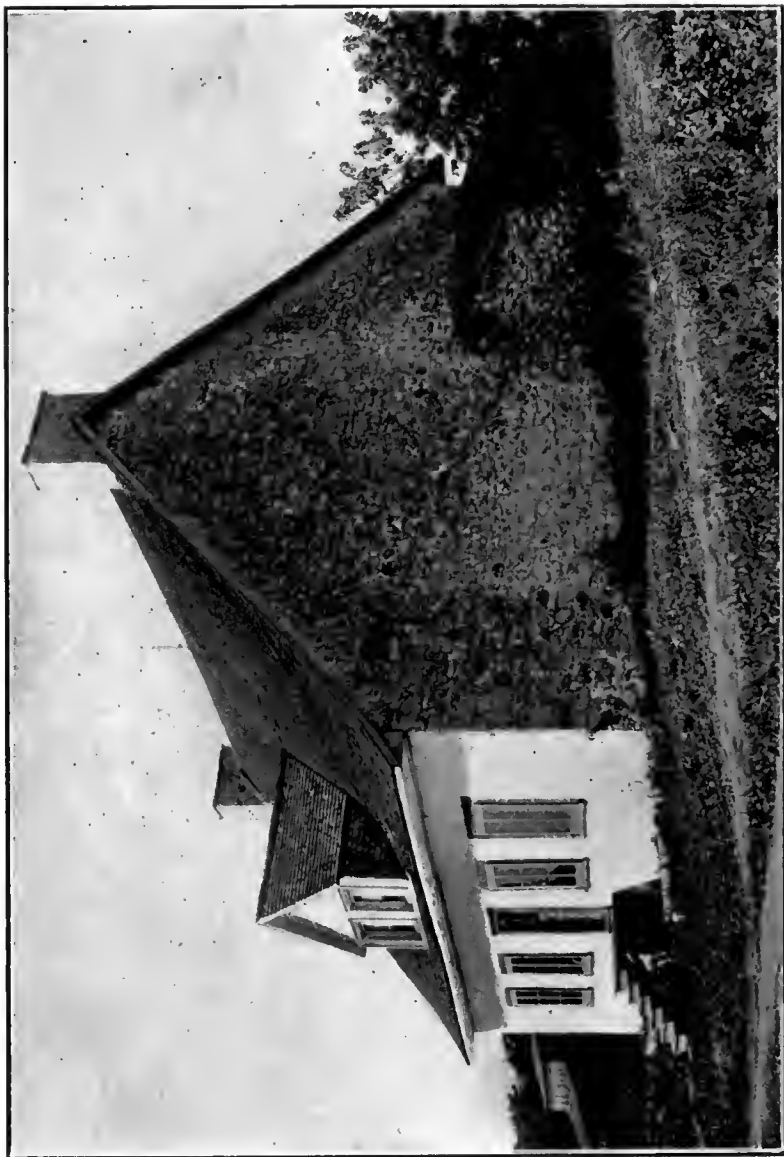
THE LANGLOIS MANOR HOUSE, PORTNEUF

Madame Langlois, who has resided in the Portneuf manor house for a number of years, is the widow of the late M. Jean Langlois, lawyer, who was deputy for Montmorency and bâtonnier of Québec, and the daughter of the late Hon. Sandfield McDonald, who played such an important role in Canadian politics.



THE OCTAVE DELISLE HOUSE, DESCHAMBAULT

Spacious, well lighted and nicely situated, this house has sheltered several generations of fine Canadian families. Under the French régime, probably in 1759, soldiers were billeted here.



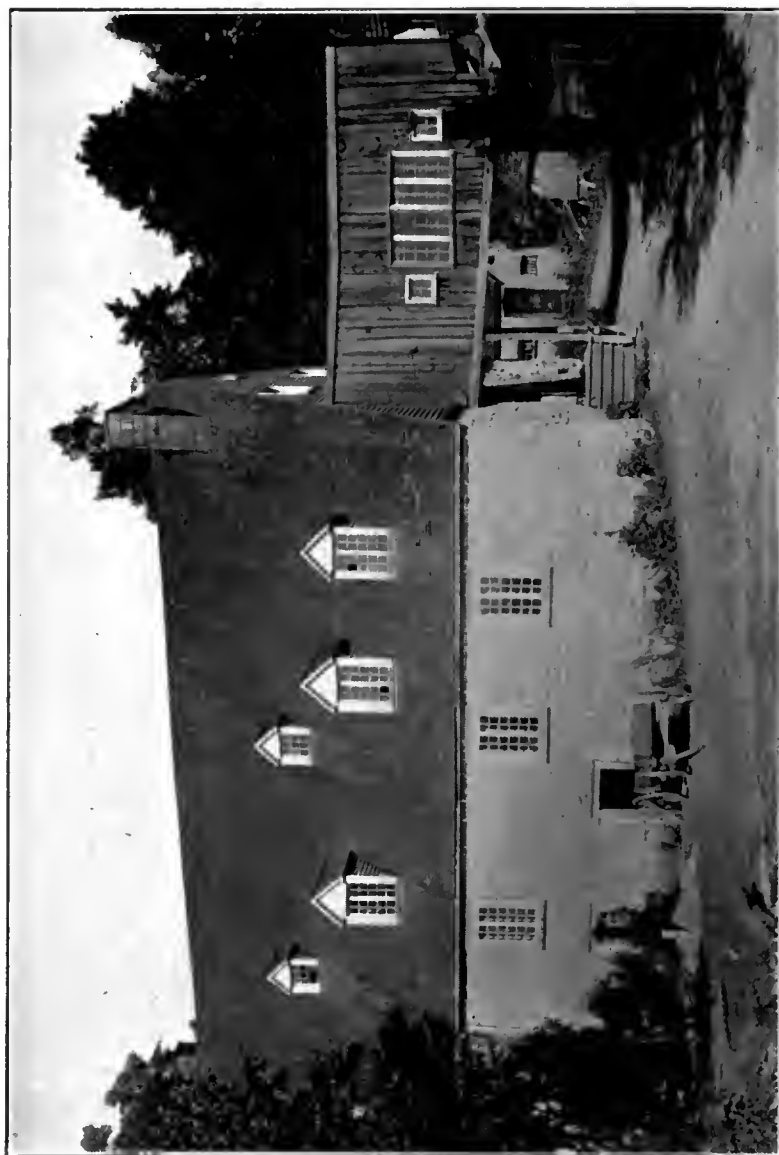
THE OLIVIER DELISLE HOUSE, DESCHAMBAULT

One of the oldest, and perhaps the most substantial house in Deschambault. Note, on the left side of the house, the oven opening on to the interior.



THE OLD HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY POST, DESCHAMBAULT

This old house has been uninhabited for two years. It is said that the house first served as a Hudson's Bay Company post. In any event, carved in a stone above the front door, is "1823."



THE GAUDREAU MILL, DESCHAMBAULT

This flour mill, built at the opening of the last century, is fairly well preserved. The covered passage linking it with the neighbouring house robs it, however, of some of its charm.



THE BANAL MILL, GRONDINES

To-day it is used as a signal-post for the benefit of vessels going up or down the River Saint Lawrence.



## APPENDIX

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### OLD MANORS AND OLD HOUSES OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

THE old cottages and houses of the Province of Quebec may, for the purposes of this study, be classified into five types according to the roof shape of each. These are: the gabled roof; the steep hipped roof; the gabled roof with gallery; the hipped roof with gallery; and finally the town house type, with its high parapetted gable walls, which is similar to the characteristic stone house of the country.

It is in and around Quebec and the Island of Orleans where the earliest settlers built their homes, and though these have long disappeared, it is there where we may look for the oldest types. These are plain rectangular buildings with gabled roofs and a large stone chimney in the centre, an arrangement which is typical of wood constructed houses in which the chimney is built first and then the house planned around it. Sometimes, with a stone chimney in the centre, we find ornamental wooden ones on the gable ends serving no practical purpose. In some, the gables are carried up in stone, but more often the wall stops at eaves-level and the triangular portion of the gable is built of wood. The ancient home of the Jesuits at Sillery, erected in 1637, and now in the custody of the Provincial Government, is of this type, only here the wood framing butts into the chimneys in the gable walls. This treatment with symmetrically disposed windows and sweeping "bell-cast" eaves carried by cantilevered beams forming a roof to the gallery, is a beautiful one. A good example is at St. Rose, where a bay-window (an unusual feature) is roofed by the projection of the eaves. Sometimes the cantilevered portion is returned around the ends of the cottage under the gables, forming continuous eaves. The treatment of the verges to the roof in such cases is of typical wooden construction. The boarding upon which the roof covering is nailed, projects over the wall and forms a soffit when the projection is great, sometimes as much as a foot, or when it is slight, the verge is finished with a wood strip set tight against the clap-boarding or shingles. A charming variation to the usual treatment of the gable end is sometimes found in a bonnet-like form of projection at its apex. The ridge of the roof is carried forward over the wall to sometimes as much as three feet, the lower sides are shaped like a double-wave and is a form of protection to the ventilation

openings. Examples of these are found mostly on old barns, although, occasionally, one may see, as at Lorette, a cottage with such a feature. Corbelled wooden construction, of a character usually associated with mediaeval methods of building, is found also among the old barns in the more remote districts. At Beaupré and Murray Bay, for instance, there are examples of log construction with the upper storey projecting two to three feet, and at Lorette there is a cottage of the same character. Such a treatment is very picturesque and one must regret that there are not more examples of it now remaining. Features like this tempt one to conjecture on the kind of buildings erected by the first colonists. They must have been constructed in wood like Champlain's famous "Abitation de Quebec," which, as he tells us, was erected by ship-carpenters. Brittany and the parts of Normandy from where so many of the early colonists came, are stone districts, and this accounts for the stone traditions of building which are so obvious in the old architecture of French Canada, but there is no doubt that a large proportion of the buildings erected in the 17th century were of wood. Charlevoix, writing in 1720, mentions that the houses were of stone, and this emphasis suggests that it was something new; and certainly, if the early churches were of wood, as there is every reason to believe, there can be little doubt that the houses were also. This being so, it is natural to suppose that many of the mediaeval customs of buildings in timber would have been brought here as in New England, where there still survive wooden buildings, with the overhanging storey and other mediaeval features. The House of the Seven Gables at Salem, Massachusetts, is a well-known example. Unfortunately fire, and the natural desire to construct more durably in an easily procured stone, have destroyed all the wooden houses of the 17th century, and this makes it impossible for us to trace clearly the development of the later types from the earlier ones in France. In the 17th century, the style of the Renaissance was the fashion among the upper classes, but the peasantry still clung to their old methods of building, and as was the case in the "Abitation," the early buildings, no doubt, had many mediaeval features. The Chapel and Farm of the Congregation of Notre-Dame, Montreal, erected in 1668, is a case in point. The living-room shows pre-Renaissance traditions, with its heavy beamed ceiling carrying the plank floor, the joints of which are covered with moulded fillets; or the old Towers of the Grand Seminary, for instance, erected in 1699, whose conical roofs are distinctly mediaeval in character.

Houses of the steep hipped roof type follow an old form, the characteristic "pavillion" roof of old France, which is often found on the larger houses. The Manor House at Baie St. Paul is a beautiful example with moderately projecting eaves and bell-cast. The angle of the roof is nearly 60 degrees, and this, owing to the wide plan, makes the height of the roof more than twice that of the wall, giving a very picturesque effect which reminds one of the 16th century Castle of Fontaine-Henri near Caen. The Manoir Mauvide-Genest, 1734, on the Island of Orleans, is of the same character, but of two storeys in the wall height.

The oldest cottages do not seem to have had the deeply projecting eaves which with the curving "bell-cast" became such a characteristic treatment. The little wooden platforms in front of the cottages, with

their steps and shaped wooden balustrades, sheltered by the boldly projecting eaves, make a charming picture of inviting shade. The gallery is as necessary as the living-room in the Province of Quebec and so the need for the extra width evolved the gallery with posts. Many beautiful types of these are found, some with uprights and balustrades formed in lattice work with shaped wooden arches, as at the Presbytery, Pointe Claire. The verandahs to houses with gabled roofs often give the impression of having been added on at a later date, but in the case of hipped roofs with galleries a more homogeneous effect is obtained. Stonecroft Farm, St. Marie Road, St. Anne de Bellevue, is a good example of the flatter angled hipped roof with cantilevered eaves; while the same type of roof with supporting posts and gallery carried all round the house is well illustrated by a house on St. Charles Road, Island of Montreal. These have chimneys in the end walls. An interesting variation is at Bout de l'Isle, where the house being square on plan, the roof is pyramidal with the chimney in centre. The Berthelot House, St. Genevieve, with very deeply projecting eaves finished with a classic cornice, is an example of a later type in which the influence of the Greek Revival is seen. In the southern districts are found houses of the American Colonial style, as at Georgeville, Lake Memphremagog, and after the war of 1812 there must have been a considerable intercourse with the United States, which at the time was under the influence of the Greek Revivalists. The Archambault House at L'Assomption shows Colonial influence, particularly in its plan, as does also the Le Moyne Manor at Longueuil, now destroyed.

To trace the growth of the classic tradition, however, we must go back to the days when Monseigneur de Laval established schools of art at Cap Tourmente and Saint Joachim in the last quarter of the 17th century. These schools flourished and developed a stylistic tradition based largely on a study of such books as Blondel's "Cours d'Architecture" published in Paris in 1774, which gave examples of the "Orders" and contemporary buildings and ornaments. A stone doorway in the House of the Seminary at Petit Cap is an exact reproduction of a drawing in Vignola's "Traité Élémentaire Pratique d'Architecture," which was a standard work in France at that time. Late in the century a school where architecture was taught was founded by Louis Quevillon (1749-1823) at St. Vincent de Paul, and another, which included three generations of architects, by François Baillairgé, born in Quebec in 1759 (the son of a carpenter from Poitou), who studied in Paris before starting in practice here. The Baillairgé School seems to have worked at first along the traditional Quebec lines, but later, judging from the design of the N.W. Tower of the old Basilica at Quebec, built in 1844 by Thomas Baillairgé (1791-1859), it would appear to have been influenced by the spirit of the classic revivalists. The Sabrevois de Bleury Manor at St. Vincent de Paul is a good example of the later Classic School, with its refined detail, Doric porticoes and angle pilasters of Greek character.

Except for the high parapetted gable and double chimneys, the typical French Canadian stone house of one storey is almost identical with an old form which is still popular in Normandy and Brittany.

Such a home, of moderate size and stone construction, would, no doubt, have been remembered by the early settlers when they decided to build in a more permanent fashion. In the cities, the congestion necessitated another storey, as in the fine old house erected by Gédéon de Catalogne after 1720, on the corner of St. Vincent and St. Thérèse Streets, Montreal. The single storey elevation was, however, still built in the cities, as at the Château de Ramezay, 1703. An old house at St. Denis sur Richelieu (now used as the Post office) is a fine example of the type, with the characteristic moulded corbels to the parapets and bold outlines of gable and double chimneys. The rear elevation, owing to the fall in the ground, is two storeys high with windows symmetrically arranged under the row of the dormer windows which stand on the wall head. The walls are two or more feet thick, of rough stone almost smothered in mortar, and the roof is covered with the well-known "fer-blanc" which was introduced here as a precaution against fire as early as 1678. As is usual in this type, the door is in the centre of the elevation; with the double casement windows of small panes, disposed symmetrically on either side. Generally, there are doubled slatted shutters which open back against the walls and are held by "S"-shaped wrought-iron catches, while on the gable ends are to be seen wrought-iron anchor bars holding fast the principal roof and floor beams. Sometimes the chimneys are finished with moulded copings of rather a Gothic character and the parapets are boarded and tinned or shingled on the top. This high parapet probably came into use in the town where the buildings adjoined, and acted as a fire protection. The main floor is raised three to four feet from the ground and is reached by steps and gallery. The entrance door opens direct into one of the two rooms which usually make up the ground plan, one serving as a living-room and kitchen, the other as a parlour, and from the corner of one of them the stairs rise irregularly to the big attic. The larger houses are often very broad, the Château de Ramezay is over 51 feet from front to back and is planned two rooms deep with a central wall; from this would originate the typical double chimney on the gable ends.

Variations from the general types are few; the plans, and consequently the roof treatments, are of the simplest outlines, influenced no doubt by practical considerations of ice and snow. Picturesque gables and broken roofs are unsuitable to Eastern Canada. A form which one wonders was not more often used is the mansard type of roof, of which there still remain a few good examples. Instead of the usual flat treatment of the eaves, a quadrant curve is sometimes used suggesting the coved cornice of Georgian design. At L'Assomption there is a Summer House with a curved roof, flanked by balustraded terraces, making a composition of rare beauty.

The building traditions which have given to French Canada so much of its old-world charm were practically dead by the middle of the last century, but happily there are many signs that the old architecture is now being studied and appreciated at its true value. These old houses were the answer to conditions of contemporary life, and it is the manner of this response which should inspire our architects rather than

the study of forms which belong to the past. The spirit which animates this old work is simplicity and modesty, and a fuller appreciation of this will go a long way in saving us from the errors in taste which afflict the smaller domestic architecture of French Canada to-day. Fortunately, as the contents of this book show, there still remain many examples which are always ready to speak, as old stones alone can, of what it is that constitutes beauty and fitness in architecture.

WILLIAM CARLESS, M.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.



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